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FORCES CLASH ON STREETS AS JAPANESE DRIVE ONWARD

Blackest Hour Faced by U.S. Troops on Bataan

ADMIRAL HART QUITS

Domei

LISBON, February 11.—As Japanese Forces in the Philippines again stormed General Douglas MacArthur's troops holding out in the Bataan sector, the War Department in Washington today admitted that the United States troops are facing "the blackest hour since Pearl Harbor."

A United States radio report commented that "the War Department has left no room for doubt that the situation is critical."

The Japanese were said to be heavily reinforced by fresh troops which evidently are following up the spectacular Singapore campaign with one of their own on Bataan Peninsula.

Admiral Hart Relieved

D.N.B.

STOCKHOLM, February 12.—Admiral Thomas Hart, who on January 3 took over the chief command of the allied naval forces in the southwestern Pacific, has been relieved of his post according to an announcement of the U.S. Naval Department. His replacement has become necessary for reasons of health. Formerly, Admiral Hart was Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. His successor will now be Vice-Admiral Helfrich of the Dutch Navy.

Admission of Failure

Competent observers here, commenting on the resignation of Admiral Thomas Hart as commander-in-chief of the allied Pacific fleet, declared that the Admiral's action can be viewed as a tacit admission of complete failure of his strategy against the Japanese Naval and Air Forces.

These sources said Admiral Hart's fallout from the allied high command can also be looked upon as proof that the so-called American "victories" in the Pacific were nothing more than inflated propagandistic claims to bolster the flagging morale of the American and British public.

Admiral Hart must have realized the futility of commanding the allied fleet against Japanese Forces in the Pacific, especially with Singapore—most formidable allied naval base—about to fail, the observers concluded.

Concern Felt on Burma

Domei

SAIGON, February 12.—The Netherlands East Indies United Press correspondent, commenting on the Burma situation, declared the situation there requires utmost attention because "there is reason for concern," according to reports received here today.

"Lower Burma or Tenasserim has now been cut off from Victoria Point to Moulmein and it is in Japanese hands," the correspondent said.

Claiming the Salween River forms the British line of resistance, the correspondent said: "If the Japanese troops, however, are superior, the British have a choice of either lengthening the front in a northerly direction and make the line thinner—which increases the chance of infiltration and breaking through—or resist an outflanking movement on the northern wing."

The correspondent added that further withdrawal by the British in a westerly direction "would very much complicate the situation as the harbor of Rangoon as well as the southern part of the Burma Road would be seriously in danger of falling entirely or partly into Japanese hands. This would endanger the only remaining supply line to Chungking."

Admit Martaban Occupied

Domei

LISBON, February 11.—The British Broadcasting Corporation broadcast intercepted here admitted Japanese Forces have completely occupied Martaban, approximately 160 miles east of Rangoon.

Salween Crossing Admitted

Domei

SAIGON, February 11.—In the first British admission of the Tokyo an-

(Continued on Page 2)

DIET WILL CONVENE ON SINGAPORE FALL

War and Navy Ministers to Report on Brilliant Achievement At Plenary Sessions

THANKS WILL BE VOTED

Both Houses Rushing Through Study of Various Bills Still Left Unapproved

Upon receipt of the news of the fall of Singapore, the plenary sessions of both the House of Peers and the House of Representatives will be immediately called, and the War Minister and the Navy Minister will submit reports on the war development.

Following the reports by the War and Navy Ministers, both Houses are expected to pass a resolution expressing thanks to the officers and men of the Army and Navy for their glorious victory and noble sacrifices.

The examination of the entire bills submitted by the Government will be concluded on February 14, and the Diet will then adjourn on February 15.

Peers Approve Bills

The House of Peers opened its plenary session at 10 a.m. today, and approved the bills for the Southern Regions Development Bank, National Welfare Bank Law, revision of the Rice Control Law, and another 12 bills as reported by the chairman of the respective committees that studied the bills. Also, the committees on tax increase and reserve fund met in the morning.

The House of Representatives will hold its plenary session at 1 p.m. today. A motion respecting the adjustment and unification of small manufacturers and merchants is scheduled to be submitted to the session, and Yofu Kanamitsu, member of the Giin Domei, will explain the object of the motion.

Also, a motion concerning the Greater East Asia educational structure will be explained by Ryutaro Nagai, Giin Domei member, which will be submitted to the House. When the two motions are approved by the House of Representatives, Premier General Hideki Tojo and other Ministers of the State concerned will express the Government's views as regards the subjects of the motions.

The Lower House committees on account settlement, petition, motion and civil code also met in the morning.

The Imperial Rule Assistance Association is now planning to call a special session of the Central Cooperative Council toward the end of February. The second session of the Central Cooperative Council was opened on December 8 of last year for five days, but as the Greater East Asia War commenced, the session was called off on the first day.

To Unite Nation

It is the intention of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association to establish at the coming session of the Central Cooperative Council a new structure for the execution of the Greater East Asia War by uniting the entire people of the nation.

As the general election is to take place on April 30, it is also observed that the question of election campaign will also be discussed at the forthcoming session of the Central Cooperative Council.

At present, it is likely that the council will be called either on February 24 or 25 for a two days' session.

ANGLO-U.S. SHIPPING HIT

German and Japanese Submarines Causing Big Losses

Domei

BERLIN, February 11.—The loss of 61 vessels, totaling 421,500 tons, recently off the North American coast has caused a serious shortage in shipping for the United States and Great Britain, the Berliner Boersen Zeitung declared today in commenting on U-boat successes in the Atlantic.

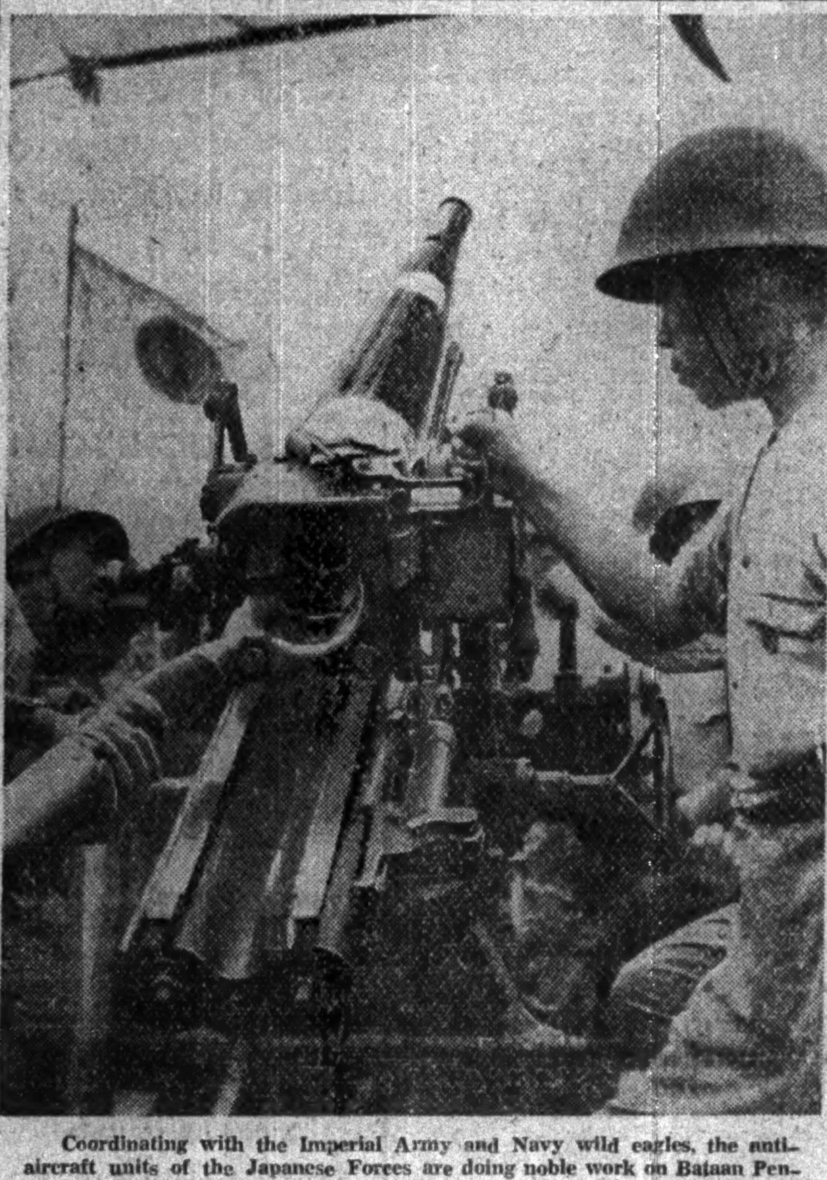
The United States, the journal stated, is now seriously threatened on both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans since Japanese undersea craft are waiting for American ships on the Pacific, and German U-boats sinking all sighted vessels on the Atlantic.

Off to Assume Post

Domei

FUKUOKA, February 11.—Marquis Yoshichika Tokugawa, member of the House of Peers, left here by plane at 2:25 p.m. today to assume his new post as adviser to the military administration in the Japanese occupied areas in the southern regions.

Smashing U.S. Air Arm



Coordinating with the Imperial Army and Navy wild eagles, the anti-aircraft units of the Japanese Forces are doing noble work on Bataan Peninsula in exterminating enemy planes. Shown above is a gun crew engaged in active duty. (Censored by War Ministry)

Training, Preparation Given as Reasons For Japan's Win by Ex-Tokyo Newsman

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 11.—Don Brown, former news editor of the Japan Advertiser and Tokyo correspondent of the Chicago Daily News, writing in the newspaper La Prensa, declared that Japan's military conquests are the result of careful training and preparation.

Mr. Brown said that there are 80,000,000 Japanese who provide the mass fighting forces as well as trained women.

The Japanese people, the writer said, are prepared spiritually and physically by all means of sacrifices and privations for a long war.

Mr. Brown asserted that Japanese advances have been increased by the intelligent policy of the Japanese Government which stresses a high standard of public health.

Allied hopes that Japanese soldiers would be ravaged by malaria and other epidemics in Malaysian fighting were mere fancies, proving again that Japanese medicine is not so backward, as many would like to believe, the writer added.

EFFORTS FOR NEW ORDER ASKED FROM PHILIPPINES

Japanese Military Leader Exhorts People in Empire Day Statement

All inhabitants of the Philippines were strongly urged to unite with Japan in the historic task of establishing a new order in East Asia, on Wednesday, Empire Day, by the Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in the Philippine area.

The Commander in his statement issued on the auspicious occasion said:

"Inhabitants of the Philippines, this is the day when the Japanese Empire was founded more than 2,600 years ago. I feel it a great honor to share the asupicious occasion with you.

"Now, for the first time since our first Emperor Jimmu claimed his reign over Japan with the historic principle of Hakko Ichiu, or all people under one roof, we can unite with you on intimate terms in accordance with the spirit of that lofty principle. This redoubles the felicitation of this happy occasion.

"You must remember how you have been treated up to now by your American leaders, who robbed you of your much-aspired independence and did all to place you under relentless exploitation. The time has come, however, when you now can do everything yourselves to realize the desire of independence, through our support which is based on the glorious principle of Jimmu Tenno.

"We, you and the Japanese are now needed to watch the progress of history in the things actually going on before our eyes. You must know that this auspicious day for all Japanese must be the day for all the Filipinos to start on their new life and that the achievement of Japan's aim here corresponds to the attainment of the long desire of you Filipinos.

U.S. MUST PAY FOR LOSS OF GIANT FRENCH VESSEL

Vichy Says America Responsible—Carelessness Seen Cause of Conflagration

Domei

VICHY, February 11.—Replying to various rumors, which spread in connection with the loss of the Normandie, competent circles here today declared that the liner was lost after the United States Government had taken her over, so that, according to international law, the ship is subject to recompensation.

After questioning some 70 workers from the ill-fated liner, United States Public Prosecutor Frank Hogan stated that the Normandie had fallen victim to "carelessness which was just as effective as sabotage," according to the Stockholm paper Nya Dagligt Allehanda quoting a United Press dispatch.

It was discovered, the report said, that bales of Kapok had been stored near a place where the workmen used acetylene gas. The workers had been told to remove those easily inflammable bales but they had only taken them a couple of yards away so the catastrophe was obviously caused by the carelessness on the part of the workers, the report concluded.

Suner Meets Salazar

Domei

MADRID, February 11.—General Ramon Serrano Suner, Foreign Minister, interviewed Antonio de Oliviera Salazar, Portuguese Premier, this afternoon at Caia, close to Badajoz on the Spanish-Portuguese frontier. After the meeting, they proceeded to Sevilla, in southwestern Spain.

U.S. PRESS GLOOMY ON SINGAPORE FATE

Journals Admitting Superiority Of Japanese Forces—Fall Seen Inevitable

LOSS IS BLOW TO ALLIES

America Trying to Enlist Swiss For Africa Service—Argentina Boosts Army

Domei

BERNE, February 11.—The Philadelphia Record, reflecting the extreme pessimism of the United States press over the situation at Singapore, declared that nothing can be said justifying the least optimism about Singapore, according to a Reuters report received here from New York.

The journal declared all circumstances favor the Japanese Forces, asserting that fortifications were broken in the present war, not because defenders were bad or too confident, but because the Japanese had studied them for a long time.

The Baltimore Sun said that if the Japanese succeed in really keeping bridgeheads and occupy airdromes, the British hopes to resist victoriously are trifling and the fall of Singapore is inevitable.

It also added that consequences of Singapore's fall will be irreparable for the whole East Asiatic situation.

Swiss in U.S. Service

Domei

BERLIN, February 11.—American agents in Switzerland, through various channels, have been endeavoring to enlist young Swiss citizens for United States Government service in Africa, according to a Zurich report received here today.

This seems to indicate that the United States has launched on an imperialistic policy to get a firm hold in Africa.

Argentina Increases Army

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 11.—Simultaneously with the promulgation of a Government decree by which the Argentine army would be increased up to roughly 200,000 men, Vice-President Ramon S. Castillo, in an interview granted to a correspondent of La Nacion stated that although there was no particular cause for alarm, the international situation demanded certain precautionary measures, particularly in view of the long Argentine coastline.

Reserve officers, who have been called up will have to report within 10 days and non-commissioned officers within three days of receipt of their orders, it was said.

It was further revealed that the police, who have been called upon for the protection of harbor installations, will be reinforced by marines.

AMERICA IS DISPLEASED WITH REPLY ON ROMMEL

Relations Serious as Vichy's Answer to U.S. Protest Is Studied

Special to Tokyo Nichi Nichi

STOCKHOLM, February 10.— The reply of the Vichy Government to the American Ambassador to France, Admiral William D. Leahy, on the protest against the French aid to Colonel-General Erwin Rommel, Commander-in-Chief of the German Panzer Army in North Africa, has not satisfied the United States, it is reported from London.

Receiving the French reply, President Roosevelt held a conference with Secretary of the Navy Colonel Frank Knox, War Secretary Henry L. Stimson, Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles, Admiral Harold R. Stark, Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Joseph Ernest King, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet, General George C. Marshall, Chief of the General Staff, and others. Following the conference, the British Ambassador to the United States, Lord Halifax, called on Undersecretary of State Welles.

The French residents at Washington are strongly denying the report that France is aiding the Axis Powers. It is, however, generally observed that over this question the relation between France and the United States is now facing a serious crisis.

British Premier Gives Out Warning on Second Dunkirk

SINGAPORE RADIO OUT

Domei

LISBON, February 11.—Indicating an awareness of Singapore Island's actual plight, Prime Minister Winston Churchill declared today before a council on Pacific affairs, that the worst must be expected with regard to Singapore considering the sudden unfavorable turn of events in that area, a London report revealed here today.

The Prime Minister warned that the crises will have to be borne in the calm and steady spirit with which the British public had viewed the flight of allied forces from Dunkirk.

Meanwhile, the London Daily Express, editorially asserted that latest news from Singapore has plunged the British people into depths of gloom and indignation, adding however, that they must remain calm in the face of painful realities with increased resolve to struggle to the bitter end, concluded the report.

U.S. Consulate Closed

Domei

SAIGON, February 11.—An American radio message intercepted here today reported that with the fall of Singapore becoming imminent the United States consulate in Singapore was yesterday closed up and all its business was left in the care of the Swiss consulate.

Singapore Radio Silent

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 11.—The Singapore radio has been completely off the air since 12:15 p.m. yesterday when a broadcast suddenly was cut off, it was learned here from London.

The Singapore radio program was interrupted at 10:30 a.m. yesterday and came back on the air at noon before shutting down entirely, 15 minutes later, hinting that the radio station possibly had been hit by Japanese bombs, the same London message disclosed.

Worst Is Warned

Domei

LISBON, February 11.—As a forewarning of Singapore's dismal end, the Singapore radio broadcast to its citizenry today that the worst may occur within 24 to 48 hours, it was revealed here from London today.

The announcement came after an interval of prolonged silence, which reveals that the climax to brilliant Japanese advances from Kota Bharu to Singapore Island has virtually arrived, claimed the report.

London Market Drops

Asahi Service

BERLIN, February 11.—With the report of Singapore facing destruction by Japanese Forces, the London stock market has recorded a sharp slump since yesterday, according to reports reaching here. Particularly oil shares have shown a considerable fall, proving the serious effect of the fall of Singapore on the British Empire.

Gloomy Sunday in London

"The time has finally come for Englishmen to evacuate Singapore," was the pathetic radio announcement made by the British Broadcasting Company on Sunday night when the first news of the Japanese Forces' successful landing on Singapore reached London, reports a vernacular paper correspondent from Stockholm on Monday.

As a result of the announcement, Londoners, aware of the approaching tragedy in East Asia 10,000 miles away from their homeland, had to experience the same gloomy Sunday as Americans had when the Hawaii debacle was reported.

No particular move was apparent in Downing Street that night and Prime Minister Winston Churchill's official residence was as silent as a grave in the dark as if the British Government had reconciled themselves to the loss of Singapore.

In the meantime, military experts declared the fate of Singapore was sealed when the Japanese Forces landed on various parts of the Malay Peninsula and the sea battle off Malaya was fought.

Accordingly, these quarters believe the Japanese Forces' landing on the is-

(Continued on Page 2)

BRILLIANT DRIVE IN MALAYA TOLD

Within the short period of 55 days since the declaration of war on December 8 last year, the combined Japanese land, air and sea forces have completely conquered the Malay Peninsula.

On February 9, they crossed the Johore Straits and in two days, they captured the city of Singapore, on the very day of the founding of the Japanese Empire.

The progress of the Japanese troops given in diary form, is as follows:

December 8: Landed at Singora, Patani and Kota Bharu.

December 12: Japanese Forces burst through Jitler Line.

December 16: Sungei Patani, Kedah State, occupied.

December 19: Penang Island occupied.

December 22: Trengganu occupied.

December 26: Perak River crossed.

December 28: Ipoh occupied.

December 31: Kuantan on the east coast, and Lumut on the west coast occupied.

January 2: Kampar occupied.

January 4: Trolak and Sulim occupied.

January 7: Tanjong Malim occupied.

January 11: Kuala Lumpur occupied.

January 15: Malacca occupied.

January 16: Gemas occupied

January 19: Batu Anam occupied

January 20: Segamat and Endau occupied.

January 22: Mersing River crossed.

January 26: Mersing and Renggi occupied.

January 29: Pontiang Besar occupied.

January 31: Johore Bharu occupied.

February 4:—Assault on Singapore begins.

February 9: 12:16 a.m., Johore Straits crossed; 7 p.m., Tengah Airfield occupied.

February 11: Japanese troops enter Singapore city.

Achievements Lauded

The seven distinctive features of the Japanese Army's operations in Malaya which placed under its control the whole peninsula in 55 days after the landing on one corner of the peninsula were pointed out and highly lauded by the vernacular papers Thursday.

First of all, it should be noted that the Japanese Forces overcame many strategic difficulties in their landing on Kota Bharu—a corner of the Malay Peninsula—which is unique in the war annals of the world. Enemy planes numbering over 1,000 remained intact, while the Japanese did not have a single air base in the neighborhood. The Japanese Forces, soon after landing, captured the Kota Bharu airfield, which is responsible for the Japanese swift advance southward.

Secondly, from Kota Bharu to Johore Bharu extending for 1,000 kilometers, the land is a continuation of jungles and marshes. This topographical difficulty was surmounted by the Japanese. In addition the enemy blew up some 250 bridges before their retreat, to stem the Japanese advance.

The Japanese Forces faced their first jungle fighting in tropical regions—the largest in its scale in the war annals of the world. On both sides of a single road running through the region, the enemy had established positions and the Japanese had to construct a road with tank units leading the advance.

The new tactics resorted to by the forces which advanced along the west coast regions should also be noted. These forces, in response to other units, attacked the enemy from the rear by landing on the west coast in motor boats. These boats are reported to have covered the distance of 600 kilometers over the sea.

The Japanese who occupied the Kota Bharu airfield soon after their landing used the airfield as their base. In close cooperation, the air forces facilitated the advance of the landing forces.

In tropical jungles, the outbreak of epidemics among soldiers was feared. However, thanks to the role played by the medical corps the fear was almost completely removed.

Lastly, the enemy always outnumbered the Japanese. It should be remembered that the hard training was responsible for the victory scored in the Malay Peninsula. If the Japanese were on the defensive in the peninsula, no enemy would have succeeded in the landing on the peninsula.

Japanese Units Push Through West Gate Of Singapore

STRUGGLE CONTINUING

SAIGON, February 11.—Avalanching Japanese Forces storming through the western gates of the city of Singapore this morning have been staging bitter street fighting with defending British troops, a British radio broadcast intercepted here today disclosed.

Hill Position Taken

Domei

JAPANESE POSITION IN SINGAPORE, February 11.—Japanese Forces which early this morning siezed Bukit Timah, a vantage hill in central Singapore Island, continued their slashing drives southward with the vanguard pushing through the northwestern gates of the city before noon today.

Meanwhile, a body of advancing Japanese troops are stalking remnants of the British defensive units in the eastern and southern areas surrounding the city.

Fighting Described

Domei

WITH JAPANESE FORCES IN SINGAPORE, February 11.—Men in tropical khaki stand or lie sprawled on the turf of the Singapore race course on the northwestern outskirts of the city.

These are our men enjoying their first rest in 56 hours since they crossed Johore Straits on midnight of February 8 to effect a landing on the north shore of the island and after driving the combined British forces in pellmell retreat before them.

To do so they drove down the Bukit Temah road from the Kranji sector and smashed the last British line protecting Singapore from Pajang to Bukit Temah height.

In the wake of fleeing British troops, they marched into the city this mornin taking over the race course at 8:20 a.m.

The Japanese advance units already are penetrating deeper into the city, mopping up the enemy forces wherever their resistance is to be found.

From south and west comes the crackle of rifle fire, and the drumming of machine-guns. Men's faces are sweaty and dust-stained, but despite their fatigue most of them are busily inspecting their equipment. In dusty uniforms, they are strangely out of place against the background of swank club house paddocks. It is reassuring to look up and see the Rising Sun flag fluttering from a pole over the grandstand.

The battle for Bukit Temah turned from an artillery duel into a desperate hand-to-hand fight in the night which was so dark that it was difficult to tell friend from foe.

British batteries on the peak opened fire as Japanese troops approached along the highway. Rifles and machine-guns added their voices to the sound at battle as the Japanese began their attack.

British forces were driven from their positions and our men encountered them on the road and a wild hand-to-hand melee began in the dark. Survivors of the British forces managed to make good their escape by falling back toward Singapore city where our troops followed in pursuit.

Everything Black

Black rain fell from the sky as the Japanese troops advanced toward Singapore. Their shirts and breeches were spattered with black dots as the rain fell on them. Everything around them was black—the rubber trees, the muddy road and the corpses of the Australian soldiers. The whole world was black, according to a description by an Asahi correspondent.

For more than 10 days, the oil tanks of the enemy had been burning. Thick, black plumes of smoke were still spiralling skyward and the air was thick with soot. The English soldiers who surrendered to the Japanese Army looked like colored people.

The Japanese Army sped on, a black army on a black road lined with black rubber trees stretching as far as the eye could see toward a black and hazy distance beyond which lay the black city of Singapore.

Enemy Troops Surrendering

As the Japanese Army approached Singapore, great numbers of British deserters met the advancing troops and begged to be allowed to surrender at once. In their hands, they all held the printed bills, which the Japanese planes had dropped on Singapore. The bills were notices offering to spare the lives of all who surrendered.

An Asahi correspondent cross-examined one of the deserters, an Australian private called Walter Bayes, who was born in Sydney.

Bayes told the correspondent that he had been one of the soldiers in the Australian army, numbering 26,000 men, who had come to Singapore about 15 months ago.

"While fighting on the mainland," said Bayes, "we were told that a large army from Australia had arrived to reinforce us. But when we retreated to Singapore, there was no sign of this reinforcement.

"We became worried because we thought that our country could no longer send any reinforcements to help us. Six thousand of us had already either died or been taken prisoner. I am sure my people are worried about me. I suppose you couldn't send a message for me?"

"What do you think of the Japanese Army?" asked the correspondent.

"Well, you see," replied Bayes, "At first, I thought the Japanese Army was not a whit different from the Chinese army. The Australian army had routed the European forces in the north of Africa, and we thought the Japanese could not possibly hope to win against us. We were most rudely disillusioned.

"Ever since the Japanese landed at Kota Bharu, we have been fighting a losing battle. We have done nothing but retreat. We cannot defend Singapore against such troops as yours, and we knew we were bound to lose."

"Mr. Bayes," said the correspondent "the Japanese troops think that you Australians are worse than the Chinese."

"Garn!" swore Walter Bayes, "We Australians are fagged out with too much fighting."

Blackest Hour Faced By Enemy at Bataan

(Continued From Page 1)

nouncement that Japanese troops have succeeded in crossing the Salween River, British headquarters in Rangoon have reported that British forces are now fighting Japanese units on the west bank of the Salween River at Martaban, 25 kilometers northwest of Moulmein, it was learned here from Rangoon today.

The same report made no attempt to deny or confirm the news that Martaban had already fallen into Japanese hands.

Chiang Seeks New Route

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 10.—Local authorities have been asserting on the strength of reports from London that the chief points of discussion, between Chiang Kai-shek and Marquis of Linlithgow, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, at New Delhi today have been the search for a new supply route to Chungking, and Anglo-Chungking joint defense of India.

Immediately following this interview, Chiang Kai-shek conferred with Jawaharlar Pandit Nehru, President of the Indian National Congress and Sir Archibald Wavell, Supreme Commander of the Allied forces in southwestern Pacific, to exchange suggestions for India's defense, it is believed by the same authorities.

The Indian question recently has been a topic for heated debate in the British House of Lords, and despite the British Government's serious concern for the same question it still stubbornly witholds dominion status from India.

Owing to this situation these quarters envisage the appearance of grave and delicate obstacles in the path of the proposed India-Chungking collaboration.

The British Government is watching Chiang Kai-shek's itinerary with keen interest as he is expected to survey Great Britain's imperialistic policies with regard to India and China by a series of interviews with Indian leaders including Mahatma Ghandi as well as British officials in India, these quarters added.

BRAZIL TO FORTIFY ISLE

Military Commander Assigned to Fernando Noronha

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 9.—Moving to consolidate Brazil's defenses, President Dr. Getulio Vargas signed a decree incorporating into Brazil's defenses the island of Fernando Noronha, strategically located 500 kilometers northeast of Pernambuco which is on the most easterly end of the South American continent.

President Vargas simultaneously assigned a military commander to assume charge of the island's defense.

Prior to being used as a base for Italian trans-Atlantic airlines, Fernando Noronha was an isle of banishment for Brazilian convicts.

Second Dunkirk Seen By British Premier

(Continued From Page 1)

land of Singapore is a logical outcome of the Japanese operation, pointing out that nothing can be expected of the British army defending the island similar to their futile attempts to ward off the Germans during the operations in Norway.

Fear of another Dunkirk in East Asia is becoming dominant in various quarters. Particularly part of the political quarters are pointing out the meaninglessness of resistance in Singapore, saying that the military authorities should remember the contribution toward the strengthening of defense made by retreating troops from Dunkirk and take some measure regarding the British East Asiatic army.

Noteworthy is the attitude of British newspapers which in the face of the imminent fall of Singapore are playing up the valuelessness of the fortifications there. This is apparently the first move of the Churchill Administration to evade responsibility for the fall of Singapore and to prevent further decline in national morale.

Whether Singapore is valueless or not will be testified by the Japanese Navy, which will use the island as a base sooner or later, declare naval traditionists, warning the Government and the nation that the British Empire is confronted with a crisis far surpassing the menace caused by the Napoleonic blockade of the Continent and Hitler's occupation of the opposite side of the Dover Straits.

Empire Day and Victory Feted

Thousands flocked to the Imperial Palace plaza on Wednesday, Japan's Empire Founding Day, in joyous felicitation over the 2602nd anniversary of the nation's birth and to express their happiness over the brilliant achievements being displayed by the Japanese Forces in the Greater East Asia War. Shown is a girls' drum corps bravely parading along its broad expanse.

JAPANESE PRESS COMMENTS

Thursday, February 12

ASAHI—Imperial Forces Enter Singapore
NICHI NICHI—Thrust Into City of Singapore
HOCHI—Singapore Short of Complete Occupation
MIYAKO—Penetration Into Singapore

Imperial Forces Enter Singapore

ASAHI

With their fighting spirit enhanced tremendously on the occasion of Kigensetsu or Empire Day, the Imperial Army units, which have been subjecting the fortress of Singapore Island to terrific bombardment, occupied Bukit Timah, a pivotal enemy position located at the highest point of the island, early on the morning of February 11 after severe fighting that was launched at dawn the same day. In hot pursuit of the fleeing enemy, the Imperial Forces thrusted into the city of Singapore and planted the flag of the Rising Sun.

Singapore has been the central base of British operations in East Asia. Since it is the last base left for the British in East Asia at present, the British forces, too, have desperately been trying to defend the island.

However, with the full into the Japanese hands of Bukit Timah, which is comparable to the 203-Meter Height in Port Arthur, the main issue of fighting in Singapore has already been decided.

There is no alternative for the British forces but to either surrender or be annihilated. It will be merely a matter of hours before the news of the complete occupation will stir the entire nation.

Since the landing on the Malay Peninsula on December 8 simultaneously with the declaration of war on the United States and Britain the Imperial Forces operating in the peninsula completed the occupation of the entire area within 55 days and without losing time, they prepared for an offensive on the island of Singapore.

Only three days after effecting a landing in the face of enemy resistance, our forces sealed the fate of the enemy in the island. This was made possible by careful strategic plans of the High Command, which was fully responded to by the officers and men who consider their lives as light as a feather

The Imperial Forces which advanced into the city of Singapore must have been filled with deep emotions for they were able to shout "Banzai" for the longevity of the Throne on the auspicious occasion of Empire Day.

Thrust Into City of Singapore

NICHI NICHI

With their spirit and morale enhanced more than ever on the auspicious day of Kigensetsu, the Imperial Forces which carried Bukit Timah, a key strategic point located at a height on the island, at 8 a.m. on February 11 penetrated into the city of Singapore.

Complete occupation of the entire city is now a matter of hours. The enemy must choose now either surrender or annihilation.

During the hostilities in Malaya in the course of the past two months, the enemy lost 75,000 troops already and there are some 35,000 remaining in Singapore at present.

The Imperial Forces while carrying key strategic points in the island of Singapore one after another, also seized the control of the air completely.

As the island of Singapore is under heavy siege by the Imperial Forces both from land and sea, the escape from the island as they succeeded in Dunkirk and Crete will be next to impossible. Therefore, the enemy has to either surrender voluntarily or suffer annihilation before our fierce offensive.

Thus, only three days after the landing of the Imperial Forces in the face of the enemy, the fortress of Singapore which the British Empire boasted to the world is facing the danger of imminent fall.

Chiang Kai-shek's Visit to India

NICHI NICHI

On February 9 when the fate of Singapore was hanging in the balance, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is reported to have gone by air to India. It is reported that he would confer with Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, former President of the Indian National Congress Party, and General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied forces in the southwestern Pacific.

The purpose of his visit to India is undoubtedly connected with matters relative to the defense of the Allied forces after the fall of Singapore, of which what commands our special attention are questions concerning the strengthening of Anglo-Chungking joint front in view of the crisis facing the Burma route and the collaboration between India and Chungking.

Although he is seriously dissatisfied with the American and British aid toward the Chungking regime, Chiang Kai-shek believes in the possibility of keeping up resistance against Japan as well as in the final victory of the United States and Britain in the current war. He is apparently gaining some higher compensation from these two countries by diplomatic tacts.

In the meantime, the American and British sides, too, as their own stands became more difficult than ever are trying to utilize Chungking for the resistance against this country.

Thus, extending $500,000,000 and £50,000,000 loans to Chungking, United States Secretary of Navy Colonel Frank Knox and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill instigated Chiang Kai-shek for the continuation of resistance. The United States and Britain, which formerly controlled Chungking, though strange enough, are now trying to curry favor with the latter.

Deftly utilizing such a situation, Chiang Kai-shek has been trying to make the United States and Britain strengthen their aid toward Chungking.

Concerning the joint defense of the Burma route, an agreement is said to have been reached between the British and Chungking governments, according to which the Chungking army is reported to have agreed to do their best for the maintenance of security of that route. In this connection, the Commander of the British force in India announced that the Chungking army had decided to take charge of the defense of a certain sector as an independent force.

In view of the fact that the fate of the Burma route is now sealed completely before the fierce offensive of the Imperial Forces, Chiang Kai-shek suddenly decided to visit Mr. Nehru, who has been known for his pro-Soviet and anti-Japanese inclination, apparently with the purpose of utilizing his influences for the Indian participation in war against Japan.

Britain, too, in order to make India as the base of operation after the fall of Singapore, has been asking India to enter the war. Although maneuvers to induce India into war have been continued both by Britain and Chungking, we believe Mr. Nehru will very unlikely yield to the scheme of Chiang Kai-shek. Not only is he the enemy for the emancipation of East Asia, but Chiang Kai-shek is instigating India to join the war.

Singapore Short of Complete Occupation

HOCHI

The Imperial Forces, whose spirit and morale were enhanced more than ever on the occasion of Kigensetsu, Empire Day, stormed into the city of Singapore, the base of the British forces, at 8 a.m. on February 11.

As they succeeded in the crossing of the Johore Straits shortly after midnight of February 8 in the face of enemy resistance, the Imperial Forces lost no time in launching a powerful onslaught and only three days after the landing, they captured the Tengah Airfield, a key air base of the island of Singapore.

Continuing relentless attacks, they occupied Bukit Timah, a height which commands a full view of the city of Singapore within hailing distance, on the morning of February 11.

In close collaboration with the Air Force, the Army units pushed along the Tengah-Singapore Highway and at 8 a.m. they finally entered the city. They are now engaging with the enemy defending there.

Thus, the fortress of Singapore, which the British boasted to the world before the war as impregnable, is now on the verge of collapse and its complete occupation is now a matter of hours.

We are filled with deep emotion and thanks for the gallant activities of the Imperial Forces by receiving such reports of glorious victory on Empire Day.

It is hardly necessary to reiterate the importance of the Singapore fortress to the British Empire. Because of the strategic importance of the island, the British forces trying to defend it to the bitter end must be putting up fierce resistance by taking advantage of the world renowned fortress.

Offensive strategy of the Imperial Forces on this stronghold has commanded keen attention of military observers throughout the world and the eyes of the world have been focussed on it.

The glorious war result gained only within three days after the landing is, indeed, unprecedented in world war history, which is simply attributable to the August Virtue of His Majesty the Emperor and to the undaunted activities of His Majesty's Forces.

The fall of Singapore, one of the key strategic bases of the British forces in the world, will signify the downfall of the vast British Empire.

Moreover, since it has been the base of British operations which threatened our peaceful intentions in the Pacific Ocean, the occupation of the entire island will eradicate completely the evils of the British Empire in East Asia over a century in the past.

We are highly pleased to see the task of the establishment of the new order in East Asia has been making steady progress.

Penetration Into Singapore

MIYAKO

On the celebrated occasion of Empire Day of the 2,602nd year of the national foundation, a corner of the city of Singapore, the base of British imperialism in East Asia, has fallen into the hands of the Imperial Forces. The foundation for the reconstruction of Greater East Asia has been laid on the auspicious day.

The great task of reconstructing Greater East Asia has already been completed halfway. Only 55 days after the advance of the Imperial Forces, a new epoch has been marked in the history of the world. With the fall of Singapore, the downfall of the British Empire has become inevitable.

As the gateway connecting the Pacific Ocean with the Indian Ocean and the base of exploitation in India, Burma, Australia and the East Indies, the island of Singapore has played the most significant role in the past century.

With the imminent collapse of this stronghold, a new chapter in world history is about to be opened by the Japanese race.

The glorious war results and solid unity displayed on the home front since the opening of the War of Greater East Asia on December 8 has been the wonder of the world. No matter how the British desperately try to halt the Imperial Forces, the enemy is no match against our troops. Britain's defeat is only a natural conclusion.

CRIPPS' CAMP OPPOSING PRIME MINISTER'S STAND

Growing Tension Seen in Former's Demand for Increase in Arms' Output

D.N.B.

STOCKHOLM, February 9.—The broadcast, made on Sunday night by Sir Richard Stafford Cripps, former British Ambassador to Moscow, demanding an increase of British armament production as well as closer cooperation between the Soviet Union and Great Britain, is meeting with a great deal of attention in London political circles, according to reports from London.

The speech is generally considered as a further indication of the growing tension between the Churchill Government and the more radical group of Sir Richard and his followers.

Typical of the feeling among the Cripps' camp is an article in the London News Chronicle stating that after a Soviet victory, it would be too late to talk about peace aims, and the collaboration between London and Moscow should, therefore, be intensified immediately.

The paper is pointing out that very influential circles in England are still opposing and systematically sabotaging such a course advocating that, after the termination of the war, a strong Europe with a strong Germany should serve as a bulwark against Bolshevism.

MATERIAL BUREAU SET UP

Headed by Robinson—to Facilitate U.S. Arms Production

Domei

LISBON, February 9.—To facilitate naval operations, the United States Navy Department has created a Materials Procurement Bureau, to be headed by Rear-Admiral Samuel M. Robinson, Chief of the Navy Department's Engineering Bureau, it was reported here from Washington today.

The new naval bureau will cooperate with the Army's Munition and Wartime Productions Bureau to insure supplies of various materials to the armed forces of the United States.

The new bureau will be subdivided into the Production, Purchasing and Raw Materials Investigation departments, it was revealed.

TO CHANGE SEAT TO PARIS

Important French State Council to Leave From Royat

Transocean

VICHY, January 27.—The French State Council, one of the most important constitutional bodies of the French State, will move its present seat from Royat, near Clermont-Ferrand, to Paris March 1, 1942, it was made known here yesterday.

The State Council is an advisory body of the Government, to which decrees are submitted for final examination prior to issuance. The State Council is presided over by the Minister of Justice. The present Minister of Justice is Joseph Barthelemy.

FORMER STATE LEADER OF FINNS PASSES AWAY

Doctor Lauri Kristian Relander Ends Distinguished Service At Age of 59

Domei

HELSINKI, February 9.—Doctor Lauri Kristian Relander, former President of Finland, died here tonight after a brief illness at the age of 59.

An honor graduate of Helsinki University, the beloved doctor was an agricultural expert attached to various national and international agricultural institutions. Dr. Relander also studied his subject in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany and Russia from 1907 to 1912.

As his first public office during his long and meritorious career, the late Dr. Relander served as member of the Finnish Diet for two terms, 1910-1913 and 1917-1919, serving in the capacity of Speaker of the Diet during 1919.

After three years as department chief of the Central Administration of Agriculture, he was Governor of the Province of Viipuri from 1920-1925.

Reaching the peak of his political career at the end of his tenure as Governor of Viipuri, Dr. Relander became President of the Finnish Republic, in which capacity, he served his people until 1931.

Later, retiring from political life, he became Managing-Director of the Farmers' Fire Insurance Company, Ltd.

Handling Italian Interests

Domei

BERNE, February 10.—Upon the request of the Italian Government and the consent of Brazil, the Swiss Government officially has announced that it will look after Italian interests in Brazil, according to a German News Agency.

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ARMY ENTERS SINGAPORE! STREET FIGHT GOING ON; 30,000 TROOPS TRAPPED

The entry of Japanese Army Forces into the city of Singapore was announced in a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday. The communique reads: "The Imperial Army units which have been continuing their advance since early morning on February 11, breaking the stubborn resistance of the enemy, at 8 a.m. penetrated into the city of Singapore. They are capturing and trampling down defeated British troops on every hand."

Nearing Showdown

Domei

SINGAPORE ISLAND, February 11.—The three-day-old battle of Singapore appeared to be rapidly nearing a showdown today as three Japanese columns driving southward across the island completed a semi-circular front, entrapping 30,000 besieged British troops in the southeastern part of the island. The spearhead of the Japanese mechanized units forming the left wing of the Japanese advance is reported to be poised for a drive in the direction of Singapore city after more than 50 hours of continuous pushing to the eastward.

Meanwhile, Japanese land operations yesterday were effectively assisted by the Japanese Air Force, which has secured complete air supremacy over the island. Large formations of Japanese Army aircraft yesterday subjected Singapore to a day-long assault, blasting vessels in the harbor and fortifications. Japanese bombers which swooped down on enemy warships disabled a 3,000-tonner, while another group assaulted a railway station in the vicinity of the commercial port, causing considerable damage. Enemy positions in Bakit Panjang, on the island, were also subjected to fierce bombing by Japanese planes.

WITHIN HAILING DISTANCE OF CITY

Domei

SINGAPORE, ISLAND, February 11.—The spearhead of the Japanese units, which smashed through the British strongholds elaborately constructed at the high peak of Bukit Timah, at 8 a.m. today has reached within full view of the city and port of Singapore.

ADVANCING ALONG TWO MAIN ROADS

Domei

SINGAPORE ISLAND, February 11.—Over-running Bukit Timah in a series of swift attacks, undisclosed Imperial units supported by tanks and aircraft, are reported to be advancing along two main roads leading to the city of Singapore.

GENERAL MACARTHUR VOICES PESSIMISM

Domei

LISBON, February 10.—Pointing out that the Japanese Forces in the direction of the Bataan Peninsula are being reinforced steadily, General Douglas MacArthur, Commander of the American-Filipino forces in the Philippines, in his report to the United States War Department today, voiced serious pessimism over the war situation in the peninsula, it was reported here from Washington. The fate of the American-Filipino combined forces massed in the Bataan Peninsula has been sealed in the teeth of furious onsets of the Japanese units which are being steadily reinforced, he stated in his report, adding that Japanese artillery corps are concentrating fire from concealed positions on his remaining troops.

IMPERIAL FORCES LAND AT GASMATA

Domei

LISBON, February 10.—Australian authorities yesterday issued a communique stating that Japanese Forces on February 9 landed on Gasmata, on the southern coast of New Britain, according to a report from Canberra reaching here.

JAPANESE FORCES LAND AT MACASSAR

Domei

SAIGON, February 10.—Netherlands East Indies authorities today issued a communique admitting that Japanese troops yesterday effected a landing at Macassar, in southern Celebes Island, according to a report reaching here from Batavia.

U.S. TRANSPORT SUNK OFF HAWAII

Domei

LISBON, February 10.—United States military authorities in Hawaii today disclosed that the 224-ton Royal Flank, an American army transport, has been torpedoed and sunk by a submarine off the Hawaiian Islands, the U.S. War Department announced, it was reported here from Washington. Some 33 survivors of the sunken army freighter have reached a nearby port but the remaining members of the crew are believed dead, the announcement said.

Bukit Timah Taken

The Imperial Forces advancing on the city of Singapore occupied Bukit Timah, 9 kilometers northwest of the fortress city, on Wednesday, the Imperial Headquarters announced at 12:20 p.m. Wednesday. The communique states:

"With their fighting spirit enhanced tremendously on the occasion of Kigensetsu, Empire Day, the Imperial Army units, which are subjecting the fortresses of Singapore Island to a terrific bombardment, captured Bukit Timah, an important enemy position located at the highest point on Singapore Island early this morning after severe fighting.

"With the city of Singapore now within hailing distance, the Imperial units, looking down on the city, are continuing their vigorous attacks upon the enemy stronghold.

"Note: Bukit Timah, located 9 kilometers northwest of the city of Singapore, is 177 meters above sea level. It is the highest point on Singapore Island and forms a key position in the enemy's defenses for the city of Singapore."

The occupation of Bukit Timah, the most important position in the line of defense in Singapore, has been announced by the Imperial Headquarters.

The reduction of this strategically important point, which has brought the Japanese Forces operating on Singapore Island within sight of the city of Singapore proper, the objective of their drive, came on Wednesday, Kigensetsu, only three days from the time they landed on the island in the face of enemy resistance.

A number of paved roads leading to the different parts of the city start in all directions from this height.

Competent observers likened this height as a point from which to attack the city of Singapore to the 203 Height whose reduction hastened the fall of Port Arthur in the Russo-Japanese War.

The city of Singapore, with the enemy troops routed from their positions, presents an appearance of undescribable confusion and pandemonium.

There may be isolated skirmishes engaged in with the enemy remnants found in the Seletar and other areas before the entire Singapore Island is brought under Japanese control but with the enemy troops whose fighting spirit has been undermined, it would be no exaggeration to say that Singapore Island has for all practical purposes been taken by the Japanese. The fall of Singapore is now only a matter of minutes.

The bravery of the officers and men of the Army operating on Singapore Island is one decisive factor in the imminent fall of the fortress city. The skill with which the operations were planned is another.

The Imperial Forces, it will be recalled, started operations on the evening of February 7 against Pulan Ubin Island in the Johore Strait, in a move to divert the attention of the enemy. While enemy forces were being concentrated in the western part of the island, strong units in the left wing of the Imperial Army crossed the Johore Strait and from the vicinity of the enemy naval base they advanced in cooperation with the units which had landed on the island to the west.

In the meantime, the engineering units of the Imperial Army completed repair work on the causeway which had been destroyed by the enemy. Unit after unit of the Imperial Army entered the island over the causeway.

Mop Up Chiang Forces

Domei

ON THE SHANTUNG FRONT, February 10.—Japanese troops, with the assistance of air units, are mopping up remnants of Chungking's 113th Division in mountainous regions east of Yuanli, which already has fallen into Japanese hands. Up to noon on February 8, 900 Chungking troops were killed and 150 captured and a large quantity of arms and ammunition have been taken by Japanese Forces.

Seeking Eire Concession

Domei

LISBON, February 9.—In an effort to coax Eire into giving concessions to the United States, President Roosevelt will form an Irish-American committee to be known as the "Personalities Commission," according to a United Press dispatch received here. The Commission, which will be headed by Frank Murphy, former High Commissioner to the Philippines, will be sent to Eire to call on Eamon de Valera, Eire President, it was said.

Nature Welcomes an Ally

All neutral military observers and even some of the enemy observers agree that the advance of the Japanese down the Malay Peninsula has broken all records in the amount of ground covered by an advancing army. The enemy wants the world to know that the Japanese advance was due to superiority in numbers; just the very thing the Anglo-Saxons would say under trying circumstances. But the neutral military experts unanimously find the reason of the fast Japanese advance in the indomitable soldiery of the Nippon Army. This picture shows another reason. That is even nature has become an ally of the Japanese soldier as is shown by the Japanese tank being afforded camouflaged protection of the tropical palms of Malaya. (Censored by War Ministry)

GERMANS INTENSIFY U-BOAT ACTIVITIES IN NORTH ATLANTIC

High Command Communique Reveals Sinking of Eight Enemy Merchantmen

Domei

BERLIN, February 10.—Submarine activity in the Atlantic against allied transportation has been intensified recently as the German High Command announced today in its communique the sinking of eight enemy merchantmen totaling 50,500 gross registered tons, of which six steamers totaling 34,500 tons have been sunk off the North American coast.

Another big steamer was seriously damaged by a torpedo hit, while a small corvette also has been reported sunk, it was said.

Meanwhile, on the Leningrad front the important naval port of Kronstadt in the Gulf of Finland, was effectively shelled by the army artillery.

In successfully repulsing violent enemy attacks, the German High Command especially noted the distinguished action of the 25th motorized Wuerttemberg Division and the Flemish Legion.

On the eastern front 16 enemy tanks were destroyed as the enemy again suffered heavy casualties in the course of continued fighting which was marked by local successes of our own attacks, the communique declared.

A German bomber formation attacked with special success a strongly protected British convoy in the eastern Mediterranean west of Marsa Matruh, the High Command announced, revealing serious damage inflicted on a light cruiser, a destroyer and two big transports by direct bomb hits. The destruc-

(Continued on Page 2)

Today's Press Comments

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Detailed translations of these and other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times and Advertiser.)

Fate of Singapore

MIYAKO—The fall of Singapore may come at any moment. Few thought that the last remaining stronghold of the enemy in East Asia would be in danger so soon. We do not think that the enemy's plans to defend the fortress were ill-considered. The bravery of the Imperial troops was the chief factor in the imminent fall of the enemy stronghold.

The rapidity with which the Imperial Forces advanced in the Malay Peninsula was a complete surprise to the enemy, who fondly believed that Singapore protected by difficult terrain would be safe. When he saw the Japanese come up to the gates of Singapore he could not believe his eyes for a time. Nothing under the sun, however, can prevent the Japanese from crushing the enemy.

Singapore Fall Imminent

HOCHI—The Japanese troops occupied Bukit Timah, the highest point on Singapore Island, on Kigensetsu, Empire Day, Wednesday. With this the fall of Singapore has become imminent. Since Sir Stafford Raffles opened a Malay fishing village in 1819, Singapore has been made the foremost van of British aggression in East Asia. Following Britain's abrogation of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance that country has fortified Singapore. Singapore was claimed the Gibraltar of East Asia. Britain continually boasted that this Gibraltar was impregnable, but in less than three days after the landing of Japanese troops on the island, one of its vantage points has been reduced before the furious onslaught of the Japanese. There is no impregnable fortress before the Imperial troops. The fall of Singapore will eliminate British evils from East Asia, an event which cannot but augur well for East Asia.

General Chiang's Visit to India

NICHI NICHI—Rumor has it that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has visited India to confer with Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy of India, and Pandit Nehru, a prominent leader of the Indian Congress, just at a time when Singapore is on the verge of collapse. It is further reported that he will talk with General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of the combined Allied forces in East Asia.

Singapore is the key to Anglo-American control over Greater East Asia and consequently, the loss of this vital base will mark their general retreat from this region and moreover, adds a new leaf to the history of the world.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, however, blindly believes that there must be something to be gained by putting up a futile resistance and he is said to have reached an understanding with Britain for the common defense of Burma. But now that the fate of Burma is virtually sealed, it is necessary for the Chungking regime to seek another route of supply of various war materials.

The object of the Generalissimo's call on Pandit Nehru, without doubt, is to utilize the latter's influence in stimulating anti-Japanese sentiment among the Indians for the latter is well known as a leader of the Indian Congress which favors pro-Soviet and anti-Japanese policies. India is thus being enticed both by Britain and the Chungking regime to march closer

(Continued on Page 2)

POPULATION CLIMB MORE THAN BEFORE THE CHINA AFFAIR

Furthermore Infant Mortality Decreases Greatly, Premier Tojo Declares

The ratio of increase in Japan's population is at present higher than at the time previous to the outbreak of the China Affair and, furthermore, infant mortality has dwindled perceptibly, according to Premier Hideki Tojo, in his answer to an interpellation put by Dr. Ichiro Kiyose at Tuesday's plenary session of the House of Representatives. A stenographic record of the Premier's explanation follows:

"There is no denying the fact that the China Affair has affected Japan's population, but this effect is very slight and of course only temporary. The present situation is far better than that before the outbreak of the China Affair. I should like to point out this in statistics covering births and deaths before and after the outbreak of the China Affair as follows:

1937 Births	2,180,000
1937 Deaths	1,210,000
1937 Natural Increase	970,000

"Before the Affair, average yearly births numbered 2,100,000, deaths 1,200,000, the natural increase being 900,000. The situation in 1937, the year when the China Affair broke out, was better than an average yearly condition, as will be seen by the following figures:-

1938 Births	1,930,000
1938 Deaths	1,260,000
1938 Natural Increase	670,000

"The above figures represent statistics in the second year of the China

(Continued on Page 2)

FALL OF SINGAPORE TO BENUMB BRITISH

Spanish Military Commentator Says John Bull in for Heaviest Blow

CREDITS NIPPON MIGHT

Declares Difficult to Defend Fort Against Troops so Daring as Japanese

Domei

MADRID, February 10.—Galindo Garcia, military commentator of the local daily Arriba, declared "the fall of Singapore would be undoubtedly the heaviest blow suffered by the enemy since the outbreak of the present conflict and possibly will mark the beginning of the collapse of the British empire."

Pointing out the difficulty of defending a coastline 150 kilometers long when confronting an enemy so active and daring as the Japanese, the commentator noted that strong fortifications alone constitute only a passive element that fails to provide adequate defense when inferior forces man the armaments in the defenses.

The defense of the Singapore front would require seven divisions comprising 150,000 men allotting one division to each 20 kilometers.

The commentator, moreover, doubted the British have that minimum for, although the total number of defenders are estimated at 150,000, many of the troops are those who fled to the island from Malaya and whose morale is doubtful.

Under such circumstances the fall of Singapore is believed to be a matter of days leaving the door through Malacca open to the Japanese Navy which "will begin immediately to control the Indian Ocean, thereby cutting sea communications between England, India, Australia and New Zealand and also between India and South Africa."

Americans Astonished

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 10.—The American public has been shocked and astonished that Japanese attacks against Singapore are being carried out so successfully, especially in view of repeated assurances by British military leaders that Singapore would hold out, reports received here from Washington revealed today.

The reports, furthermore, disclosed that the rapid expansion of the Japanese offensive on the island has plunged Washington circles into deepest gloom with some observers voicing the possibility that Singapore may fall within 48 hours.

One commentator declared the Japanese capture of Singapore would mean Britain's position would receive the greatest blow since the fall of France.

This commentator said, the Indian Ocean will be the strategical inland sea of the empire and the backdoor to Suez and the Japanese entrance into these waters virtually would isolate England.

Singapore's loss, he added, would intensify also Britain's problems regarding India and China.

Landing Stuns London

Domei

MADRID, February 10.—British men in street, who have been stunned by reports of successful Japanese landing upon Singapore, are asking how Japanese troops were able to concentrate sufficient military power across the Johore Straits in only eight days to crush the Singapore defenses for the construction of which Britain had spent eight years, a London correspondent of a Spanish paper reported today.

Hopes that the landings represent only local infiltrations that could be destroyed by powerful concentrations appeared crushed Monday evening as a British military spokesman announced that Japanese landings took place on a 10-mile front during low tide that made the Johore Straits only six feet deep, the report said.

The shock dealt by successful Japanese landing on the British public opinion is doubly strong as only on Sunday most military critics claimed that Singapore would hold out for six months allowing the Anglo-Americans to regroup their forces for a counter offensive, it was said.

It is also recalled that Prime Minister Winston Churchill quite recently asserted in Washington that Singapore would not fall.

On the other hand, some London observers go so far as to declare that not only the War of Greater East Asia but also the war on other fronts will be decided by Singapore's fate, while more conservative elements have pointed out that its fall will not be conclusive but admitted that its occupation would have serious military and political repercussions, the report concluded.

Facing Serious Danger

Special to Tokyo Nichi Nichi

LISBON, February 10.—The British Empire is now facing serious danger with the landing of Japanese Forces on Singapore. Particularly, the fear of materialization of closer cooperation between Japan and Germany after the fall of the stronghold is being feared by the British.

Having already given up hopes of saving Singapore they are now worrying about the interruption of the Burma Road in the east and the advance of the German troops under the command of Colonel-General Erwin Rommel, Commander-in-Chief of the German panzer forces in North Africa.

The British Empire has no more men to be readily mobilized and thus, is depending much on Chungking troops. They are led to believe that when Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's Army is equipped with proper arms, his troops would be able to retake Malaya and Singapore though they are occupied by the Japanese.

Such a hope appears ridiculous to the Japanese, who know the true condition of the Chungking forces, yet the British are still counting much on General Chiang, although they regard Chungking troops only as tools for them.

In this connection, the Daily Mail wrote in its editorial of February 4 as follows:

"We cannot see British soldiers fight without water, ice or food when the temperature is 80 degrees even at night. But for Chinese soldiers such conditions are within their ordinary life." Thus, the British Empire is in need of the man power that Chungking can offer.

When the Burma Road is entirely closed, the British Empire will lose its last hope of recovery in East Asia. It has been the British habit to make others work or fight for them and when it becomes necessary for them to work or fight, they are unable to accomplish anything.

Now, both from the East and the West, the British Empire is being pressed back steadily, and soon it will find itself in a miserable condition, regardless of how hard it might try to hold its present position.

Noble Imperial Army Entreats Singapore To Surrender or Feel Steel of Swords

Domei

WITH JAPANESE ARMY FORCES IN SINGAPORE, February 10—Thousands of leaflets, urging early capitulation of British forces in Singapore, were scattered to the British defense forces this morning from air by Japanese warplanes.

The leaflet, which has been issued under the name of Lieutenant-General Tomoyuki Yamashita, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in Malaya, reads as follows:

"I advise you an immediate surrender of British forces in Singapore from the standpoint of 'Bushido'. Japanese Army and Navy Forces already have dominated the Malay Peninsula. The Japanese Navy has annihilated the British fleet in East Asia and acquired complete control of sea and air in the Pacific and Indian Oceans as well as in southwestern Asia.

"In view of the fact that Singapore has been an important British base since the 18th century as well as the melting pot of eastern and western civilizations, Japanese Forces desire to refrain from seeing the city reduced to ashes.

"Japan has taken up arms in order to conquer injustice and restore justice without the least intention of expanding territory, invading foreign soil.

"The Japanese Forces fighting on the basis of this principle will crush all enemy forces who oppose Japanese action, however, we will extend a warm helping hand to civilians as well as to those who offer their surrender.

"I wish to take this occasion to urge an immediate surrender of the British officers and men, whose wives and children must be anxiously waiting for the return homeward of their husbands and fathers, thereby also saving innocent peace loving civilians in Singapore from disasters.

"I expect from you officers and men of British forces to accept my advice for peace from the standpoint of traditional honor of the British Empire. Upon surrender you will be treated as soldiers with honor otherwise we have to meet you with arms."

Germans Intensify U-Boat Activities In North Atlantic

(Continued From Page 1)

tion of some of these ships can be reckoned with, it was said.

Meantime, the island of Malta again has been subjected to day and night bombardment as air bases and other military installations were targets for concentrated attacks, it was said.

In North Africa, reconnaissance activity was lively on both sides, the communique concluded, with German bomber and dive-bomber formations, strongly escorted by pursuit planes, bombing air bases, motorized columns and supply bases of the enemy in Marmarica and northern Egypt.

Fascists Hit Alexandria

Domei

ROME, February 10.—Headquarters of the Italian Armed Forces announced in its communique today that the British naval base at Alexandria was successfully bombed last night as Italian bombing planes renewed their raids on the key stronghold.

An Italian torpedo airplane patrol operating in the eastern Mediterranean scored a direct hit on a British cruiser, it was said.

Meanwhile, in the Ain el Gazala sector of the southern Libyan front, a vanguard skirmish resulted in favorable outcome, the communique declared, adding, air force units bombed a large motor vehicle column and inflicted damage and destruction on many lorries.

Enemy airplanes bombed a few villages in Greece causing 11 deaths and 11 injured persons in the civilian population, it was said.

Retreating British Taken

D.N.B.

BERLIN, February 9.—In the course of their speedy advance in Cyrenaica, German and Italian troops on February 6 encountered a retreating enemy column in the district of El Gazala bringing it to a standstill after brief fighting. The cars of this column were filled with British soldiers and the prisoners stated that they had an extremely strenuous march behind them.

In order to escape the German tanks they had left behind 15 motor lorries which were broken down and could not be repaired immediately. Other trucks also stalled during the hasty flight so that some of the lorries which were now captured by the Axis troops were overcrowded with soldiers and war material and had to remain behind.

The Indian prisoners complained bitterly that they had to suffer most in this hasty retreat. In view of the growing panic, caused by the lack of vehicles, the British officers always supplied the seats on the motor lorries first to their own countrymen. This brutal measure, however, did not help them since they did not escape their fate and are now in the hands of the German and Italian troops.

Frere Made War Chief

Transocean

VICHY, January 28.—General Frere, Commander of the second military divisional group in Royat, has been appointed new Secretary of State for War, it was announced by competent quarters here. In contrast to his predecessor, the late General Charles Huntziger, General Frere will not have the title of Cabinet Minister. General Revers, who has been acting Secretary of State for War, is to be appointed Chief of the Military Cabinet of the new Secretary of State.

WAR TO CONTINUE TILL FOE SUBMITS

Says Major-General Kenryo Sato of Military Affairs Section

Japan will not lay down arms until the terms of peace have been dictated at the enemy's capital city, declared Major-General Kenryo Sato, chief of the military affairs section of the Military Affairs Bureau of the War Office, in the settlements committee of the House of Representatives Tuesday.

This statement came in the course of an answer Major-General Sato made to an interpellation formulated by Iwao Ito of the Rule Aid League of Diet Members.

In another important statement the chief of the military affairs section told the questioner that the fall of Suez and Gibraltar was a matter of time.

He concluded his lengthy statement expressing the belief that the occupation of India and Australia by the Axis Powers would bring about the ruin of the British Empire.

Major-General Sato began by clarifying the character of the War of Greater East Asia.

"A modern war is a struggle between a national will and another.

War Brings Out Strength

"I should think that the War of Greater East Asia has made it possible for the Japanese people to know the truth of their real strength.

"Without question, prior to the war, the idea of relying on America and Britain had a fairly firm grip on the minds of officials and people in the country. It is possible that such an idea still has sway in the country to a certain extent. If this is the case, it is a matter of profound regret from the point of view of conducting the War of Greater East Asia.

"If there is an idea of relying on America and Britain at work, among any group of people in the country, it means that the people are not sure of certain victory.

"Every Japanese must have conviction of certain victory. In order to have the conviction of certain victory it is necessary in the first place to make the people know how the War of Greater East Asia originated and what course it is expected to take.

"The people will have deep conviction of certain victory in the War of Greater East Asia if they are clear why it is that a final victory in the war will be won by Japan.

Study of Partners Helpful

"A knowledge of German and Italian strategy in the current European conflict will be a great aid to people in understanding why Japan will emerge victorious in the war.

"I am convinced that the fall of Suez and Gibraltar is a question of time. When this lifeline of the enemy is in the hands of the Axis Powers and when Australia and British India have come under Axis control, that will be the time one will be justified in considering the ruin of the British Empire. Then the question of a German invasion of England could be brushed aside. Britain would become a possession of the United States in name as well as in fact. All influences of the British Empire would be eliminated from the Pacific and the Atlantic. Then Japan, along with Germany and Italy, could bring Britain to its knees.

"There must not be any doubt in the minds of the Japanese people that the current Greater East Asia War is of a character which precludes the idea of making premature peace with the enemy. Let me stress that Japan will not relax its war effort until it has dictated peace terms at the enemy's headquarters.

Enemy Shows Weak Points

"There is a thought which will help to strengthen our conviction of certain victory. It is about the fact that the enemy has betrayed its weak point as any nation at war has done in the world's history. The explanation of this startling fact is that the war aims of the United States were conflicting and that the United States made glaring diplomatic and strategic blunders with no parallel in history. All this, I think, will be a pointed reminder to all people who believe in the military might of the United States. All I have said is the answer to the question of why Japan is sure of victory in the War of Greater East Asia."

CHIANG-INDIA MEET WATCHED CLOSELY

Chungking Leader Flies to New Delhi to See Viceroy Linlithgow and Nehru

The outcome of the conference of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek with Lord Linlithgow, the Viceroy of India, and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, leader of the Indian Congress, at New Delhi and Allahabad respectively, is being watched with great interest, reports a Nichi Nichi correspondent from Bangkok.

The Generalissimo, who flew to New Delhi from Chungking the evening of February 9, extended his trip to Allahabad to confer with the Indian leader of the Congress. Mr. Nehru, a right-hand man of Mahatma Gandhi and a personal friend of General Chiang Kai-shek, visited Chungking in the summer of 1939 and, it is reported, is an ardent supporter of an independent movement.

A special dispatch to the Nichi Nichi from Buenos Aires, on the other hand, discloses that the Generalissimo was accompanied by 15 members in his suite including his wife. The report added that the former British Ambassador to Chungking is also at New Delhi en route to Moscow.

Chiang's Visit Guessed

The object of General Chiang's visit to India, of course, is not clear, but it is surmised that he is to discuss the possible new route of supply to the Chungking Administration since the Burma Road is virtually closed.

Meanwhile, according to the Washington Daily Express, Lieutenant-General Hartley, Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in India, made the following statement with reference to the defense of Burma, a Nichi Nichi dispatch from Washington discloses.

"During the past two months," the dispatch says, "the Chungking troops could not be incorporated into the defense of Burma because of various unavoidable circumstances. But now the impediments have been removed and the troops will be assigned to guard a certain front. The responsibilities for defending this region, of course, rests entirely with the commander of the Chinese forces."

Talks on Burma Defense

Prior to this, the report continues, there has been an inconsistency relative to the question of the common defense of Burma between Britain and the Chungking Administration and the issue has been taken up for discussion among the leaders of the two countries.

Generalissimo Chiang, it is said, pointed out the uselessness of oral promises by Britain for the supply of necessary materials if the Burma Road is completely severed by the Japanese Forces, emphasizing that the current crisis confronting Burma is due to British refusal of a combined operation of Anglo-Chinese troops. The reason for British rejection of the proposal, the report adds, is her claim that the position of Britain will be greatly jeopardized if the Generalissimo's army is allowed to advance into Burma.

Consequently, the British no longer place hopes in maintaining Burma provided the foregoing information is correct in all respects, concludes the Nichi Nichi correspondent.

Today's Press Comments

(Continued From Page 1)

toward participating in the War of Greater East Asia.

Generalissimo Chiang is not only one of the despicable enemies of the current war but has also turned warmonger, trying desperately to lead India into the present turmoil.

Need for Sound Financial Policy

YOMIURI—All budgetary bills which were introduced into the current session of the Diet have passed both Houses. The appropriations, totaling ¥20,253,000,000 will defray the costs of the war and other Government expenditures.

A study of the budgetary bills shows that in formulating the measures the Government sought to strengthen national finance. There was strict retrenchment in ordinary Government expenditures. Efforts were made to increase revenue by imposing higher taxes and other levies.

The 1942-43 general budget shows an increase over the current general budget. The War of Greater East Asia caused most of the increases in general Government expenditures. The bonds which are scheduled to be issued in the next fiscal year amount to ¥16,400,000,000, an increase of ¥2,500,000,000 over the current fiscal year. There will be no increase in deficit bonds. The increased bonds will be issued under the extraordinary war expenditure account.

The best evidence of the desire on the part of the Government to maintain a sound financial policy in the face of increased expenditures will be found in the arrangement under which the Imperial Forces operating in the southern region will support themselves.

There is the question of absorbing bonds which are scheduled to be issued in the next fiscal year. Finance Minister Okinori Kaya has plans to reduce consumer purchasing power. There is no way to meet increased Government expenditures soundly except by bringing about a reduction in the expenditures of the people and increasing national income by placing people in employment in the vital industries.

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ARMY LIFE NOT SOFT EVEN FOR REPORTERS

Press Corps With Fighting Forces Must Also Share Soldiers' Hardships

The job of a news hawk attached to the Japanese Army on the front is not exactly a bed of roses says the Yomiuri, featuring the report of its special correspondent connected with a certain landing party of the Japanese Army, at present continuing its advance on the city of Singapore.

"Fierce hand-to-hand fighting had continued for hours in the rubber plantations surrounding the enemy base," writes the war scribe. "For more than five hours, I lay face-down on the slope of a little hill, watching the fighting. I was tired out, thirsty and ravenously hungry. The air was thick with bullets and cooking a meal was out of the question.

Onward Through Jungle

"My last meal was taken at 4 p.m. the previous day. That was at the prisoners' camp on a little hill in Johore Bharu. Since then, I have been plunging through mangrove swamps, pushing through thick, tangled jungle after the tireless soldiers of the landing party. I was glad of the short breather we were having.

"There were four other correspondents with me. One of them told me he had some rice in his mess-tin. We crawled into a shell hole. My rucksack weighed a ton on my tired shoulders.

"I had thrown away almost everything to lighten my rucksack. Blankets, food, even canned provisions. Still the straps of the rucksacks bit into my flesh like red-hot iron bands.

"The five of us shared that solitary tin of rice. The rice was stale and dusty. It was more like eating sand. We chewed the obdurate rice again and again, trying to soften it before we could swallow it.

"The sun glared down on us. We were thirsty, and parched, like the Sahara desert but there was nothing to drink. Under the blazing heat of the tropic sun, the moisture oozed out of our bodies. We could feel ourselves withering.

"The water-pipes from Johore had been severed. Our water-bottles were empty. As we lay there panting in agony, the sky darkened suddenly. Clouds! Rain clouds! Oh, praise God!

Drink Rain Water

"The squall burst upon us suddenly. Our bodies seemed to suck in the moisture. Life came back to us. We turned up our faces, mouths open, gulping down the rain water. The squall was soon over.

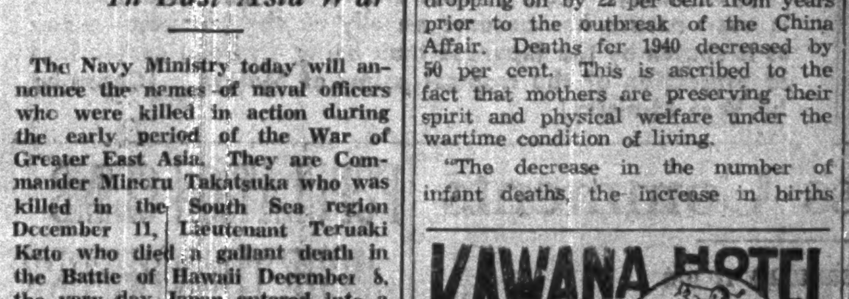
"We looked around. The rubber trees were wet, and water was trickling down their smooth trunks. We staggered toward the trees, and began to lick the moisture on them.

"The order to advance came as a shock to us. The troops pushed on ahead. There was a terrific detonation near by. The enemy anti-aircraft guns were pounding at the Japanese bombers. Falling shrapnel showered down on us. We turned our tired eyes upward, but everything seemed to be going hazy.

"We were too tired to see anthing. The world was a grey, swirling mist, through which the tireless soldiers pushed swiftly and steadily onward like ocean waves before a driving wind, onward, ever onward, toward the city of Singapore."

Navy to Disclose Officers Who Died In East Asia War

The Navy Ministry today will announce the names of naval officers who were killed in action during the early period of the War of Greater East Asia. They are Commander Minoru Takatsuka who was killed in the South Sea region December 11, Lieutenant Teruaki Kato who died a gallant death in the Battle of Hawaii December 8, the very day Japan entered into a state of war with the United States and Britain, and Lieutenant Kotaro Aiura who was killed in the South Sea region December 11.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Normandie, 84,425 Tons, Seized by U.S. Capsizes in N.Y. Harbor After Fire

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 10.—The former French luxury liner Normandie, 83,425 tons, which was seized by the United States and renamed the Lafayette, capsized in New York Harbor early this morning after catching fire at noon the previous day, according to a New York report received here today.

Rear-Admiral Adolphus Andrews, Commander of the Third Naval District, after examining the burning vessel yesterday, declared that the fire did not originate from acts of sabotage but was started by blow-torches used by workmen in the big hall on the promenade deck, the report stated.

Water from the numerous hoselines employed to fight the fire, soon filled the vessel with water and despite efforts to relieve the weight caused by the water by cutting holes in the side of the ship, the Normandie capsized, the report said.

Many workmen were said to have perished and a large number later died in the hospital from burns and injuries received in fighting the fire.

2,500 Workers Injured

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 9.—Two thousand five hundred workmen who were busily engaged in converting the French luxury liner Normandie, seized by the United States and named the Lafayette, were seriously injured when fire broke out in the vessel shortly after noon today, according to a New York cable received here this evening.

The fire was said to have rapidly extended to the superstructure of the vessel and continued to blaze after 6 p.m. the report said.

Vice-Admiral Andrews, Commander of the Third Naval District, after inspecting the burning ship, declared that no sabotage caused the fire and that it possibly developed from a spark from a blow-torch.

Population Climb More Than Before The China Affair

(Continued From Page 1)

Affair. The situation became worse in the third year, as will be seen below:

1938 Births	1,900,000
1938 Deaths	1,270,000
1938 Natural increase	630,000

"The above figures tinged the future of Japan's population with slight pessimism, but things turned definitely for the better in the fourth year, when the following results were witnessed:

1939 Births	2,110,000
1939 Deaths	1,180,000
1939 Natural increase	930,000

"Births have regained their pre-Affair condition, while deaths are slightly larger than normal. Nothing definite is known yet as to the results of the fifth year, as the reports are now being filed with the Government from various prefectures, but it can be said that the general tendency is that births are increasing while deaths are decreasing.

"Prospects for 1941 are that Japan's total births will be about 2,210,000, deaths 1,140,000 and the natural increase in population 1,070,000. If these prospects are really reliable, the number of births in this country last year will be unprecedentedly large.

"Looking closely into mortality, it is found out that deaths increased during a period of one year and one month from the first half of 1939, when the Affair broke out, to the like period of 1938. During the second half of 1938 births were restored to a normal condition. Since 1939, births have been on a steady increase and this situation is better than that in a normal year. Even during the period of the increase of deaths the ratio was only about 10 per cent of a normal year ratio before the outbreak of the China Affair.

"That the increasing tendency of deaths has dropped and a more favorable condition is being seen once more after only a brief period bespeaks of the deep-seated vitality of Japan's national life.

"The other point to be considered is that the death ratio of the Japanese people on the home front has been affected in no serious way by the China Affair. Even during the increase of deaths during 1938 and 1939 the ratio was only about 5 per cent and this ratio was not infrequently witnessed in the past. The death ratio during 1940 was smaller than in a normal year. Moreover, a decrease in deaths is observed in all years. Infant mortality has decreased especially, dropping off by 22 per cent from years prior to the outbreak of the China Affair. Deaths for 1940 decreased by 50 per cent. This is ascribed to the fact that mothers are preserving their spirit and physical welfare under the wartime condition of living.

"The decrease in the number of infant deaths, the increase in births and the strong physical condition of mothers are matters reassuring enough for the national development of this country. These favorable factors give us great strength at this momentous juncture.

"To sum up, the Japanese nation was able to shed the bad effects of death increase in a brief period of a little more than one year and normalcy has been restored. Not only this, births are increasing, suggesting national expansion despite the fact that the nation has gone through the ordeal of conducting the China Affair for the last five years.

"This fact is ample testimony of how the Japanese nation, with a tradition of 3,000 years, preserves its youthfulness strong elasticity and adaptability as a nation."

Burma Situation Bad

Domei

LISBON, February 10.—British headquarters in Burma have indirectly admitted the retreat of British troops, by announcing that a new defense line has been constructed in south Burma, according to an NBC radio broadcast intercepted here today.

GERMANS ALL LAUD SINGAPORE LANDING

Berlin Admires Boldness of Japanese Attack and Efficiency Of Leadership

D.N.B.

BERLIN, February 9.—The landing of Japanese troops on the island of Singapore was communicated to the German people by the papers under biggest available headlines.

The news caused greatest enthusiasm everywhere and is the topic of all conversations. All leading papers of Berlin published maps of Singapore Island with its roads, railway stations, ports and fortifications.

"The final stage in the fight for Singapore has begun" is the theme of the many comments of the papers which are particularly stressing the boldness of the Japanese attack and the efficiency of its leadership.

Landing Given Prominence

Domei

MADRID, February 9.—The Spanish daily Alcazar, on receipt of news of the Japanese landing on the British fortress, declared "Singapore holds the key to the fate not only of nations but also of continents," as all evening editions here gave choice space of this new development in East Asia, relegating other war reports to the background.

The Hoja del Lunes, in a front page editorial declared that Japan's conduct of the two months' war in the Pacific destroyed the legend that the Japanese simply copied foreign methods.

The journal described Japanese landings as masterly operations whereby Japanese troops are "jumping from island to island as if they were large stones so placed as to enable the Japanese to roam the southern seas."

The Japanese strategy, the Hoja del Lunes added, is to pursue certain and clear aims which are being fulfilled with characteristic determination.

While asserting the occupation of Hongkong and Singapore will open up a free path to the Indian Ocean, the Spanish daily predicted that Singapore may fall within a week.

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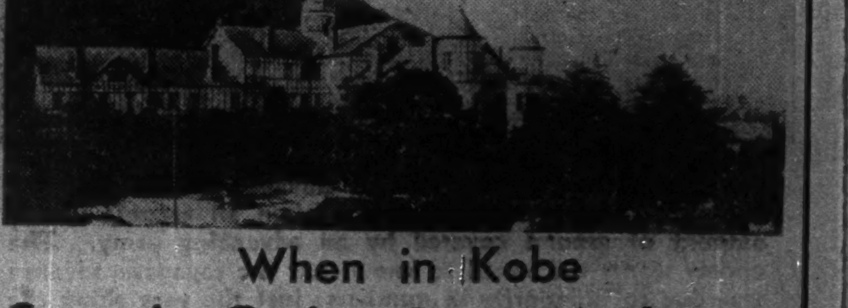
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REICH AMBASSADOR HAILS JAPAN'S MIGHT

Welcomed by Japanese-German Association—President Tsuda Also Speaks

Major-General Eugen Ott, the German Ambassador, who has been on a brief visit to the Kansai, was scheduled to entrain for Tokyo from Sannomiya Station at 9:05 p.m. Wednesday. He was seen off by a large number of prominent personages, both Japanese and German.

On Tuesday, the Ambassador was guest of honor at a luncheon party at the Oriental Hotel in Kobe, given by the Japanese-German Association. Many noted persons, totaling over 140, attended this function during which both General Ott and Shingo Tsuda, President of the Japanese-German Association, delivered speeches.

Upon arrival at the hotel just before noon, the Ambassador exchanged greetings with the many guests already assembled in the lobby, following which the gathering proceeded to the banquet hall. Before luncheon was served Ambassador Ott arose and proposed and led a hearty Banzai for Japan. Mr. Tsuda next called for Banzai for Germany.

Fights for Final Victory

The gist of Ambassador Ott's speech was as follows:

"Japan and Germany, fighting as Allies against Britain and the United States, both look forward toward a final victory. Many difficulties must be anticipated and overcome before that goal is accomplished, but the 200,000,000 citizens of Japan and Germany, now that they are combined and fighting in unity, will never find any obstacle that cannot be overcome. Germany has long held high regard for the Japanese nation but Japan's accomplishments during the 3,000 years of her history are worthy of the greatest praise. Japan and Germany, not only in wartime, but also in peacetime, will go along hand-in-hand in close unity."

Mr. Tsuda's speech, in brief, was as follows:

"Japan and Germany share the good fortune of having mutual enemies—Japan fighting the Anglo-American bloc in Asia and Germany doing the same in Europe. I am very glad of the fact that the Anti-Comintern and Tripartite Pacts now bind Japan and Germany in both spirit and body so that these two great nations may fight as Allies. This luncheon is most significant in that it is being held at a moment when the fall of Singapore is imminent.

"I heartily welcome Your Excellency. Your presence here is indeed a great honor."

Among the prominent people who were present at the function besides Ambassador Ott and Mr. Tsuda, were:

Ginjiro Katsuda, former Mayor of Kobe; Ichiji Wada, Chief Justice of the Kobe District Court; Mr. Kishi, Superintendent of the Kobe Custom House; Shinji Tazaki, former President of the Kobe University of Commerce; Mr. Ogawa, head of the Hyogo Prefectural Hospital; Minoru Konda, Principal of the Kobe High Technical School. The German guests included Dr. Alois Tichy, Commercial Attache to the German Embassy who accompanied Ambassador Ott down to the Kansai, Dr. K. A. Balser, Consul-General in Kobe; Messrs F. Ried, Consul and E. Wohlfahrt, Attache; Dr. H. Braeunert, Press Attache, W. Westphalen, Vice-President of the German Chamber of Commerce in Kobe, and others.

At 3 o'clock that afternoon Ambassador Ott granted an interview to representatives of the Kobe press in his suite at the Hotel. The interview was held in a most informal and cordial atmosphere, the newsmen being asked to question freely.

Was in Singapore

The first subject that was brought up was, as may be taken for granted, regarding Singapore and its near fall. In answer to a question whether he had ever been in Singapore, the German envoy replied that he had stopped over at the British stronghold in April or May of 1934. Although it was then spring, the day was unbearably hot, thus the Ambassador fully realizes the hardships that the Japanese Forces in Malaya must be experiencing. Ambassador Ott also visited the Tengah air base, then in the course of construction. He also crossed the Johore causeway to visit Johore Bharu. On being informed by a reporter that Imperial Headquarters had announced at noon that Tengah air base had been occupied, the Ambassador expressed great admiration and added that he had been profoundly impressed on Monday when he learned of the landing on the island by the Japanese troops.

Asked by a reporter when he thought Singapore would fall, Ambassador Ott replied that he was not in any position to say. However, he added, the important factor was not when Singapore would fall but the significance that would be attached to its capture.

Asked as to when Germany would attempt an invasion of the British Isles, Ambassador Ott answered that he could not divulge military secrets.

At four o'clock, the Ambassador attended a tea party given in his honor at the Club Concordia under the sponsorship of the German Chamber of Commerce in Kobe. At seven o'clock in the evening, he attended a reception at the home of German Consul-General Balser. At about nine o'clock, the party adjourned to proceed to the Club Concordia where Ambassador Ott addressed the German community of the Hanshin district who had assembled to see a motion picture. An informal gathering followed.

The following morning, Ambassador Ott was a guest at the villa of Consul-General Balser on Mt. Rokko. In the afternoon, he attended a tea party at the home of Consul Ried, entraining for Tokyo from Sannomiya Station at 9:05 p.m.

Nazi Envoy Feted

Major-General Eugen Ott, (left) German Ambassador to Japan, and Shingo Tsuda, noted industrialist and president of the Japanese-German Association, at a banquet given in the envoy's honor at the Oriental Hotel in Kobe on Tuesday.

ALLY COUNCILS IRK AUSSIES AND DUTCH

Say Will Cause Needless Delay In Conduct of Pacific War—Page to Be Recalled

LISBON, February 10.—(Special) The much heralded establishment of the Pacific War Council has not been favorably accepted by the Netherlands East Indies and the Australian Commonwealth, according to reports reaching here from Batavia and Melbourne.

The newspapers of Java are criticizing the creation of two Pacific councils in London and Washington thus limiting the authority of General Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied forces in the southwestern Pacific, in deciding tactical questions, while strategic decisions will come from the English and American capitals. The Dutch are said to be fearing that such limitations on General Wavell's powers will cause unnecessary delay in the conduct of the war in the southwestern Pacific.

Meanwhile, in Australia, Prime Minister John Curtin, commenting on the first meeting of the Pacific War Council, declared that the Commonwealth had failed to gain its point of having the meeting convene in Washington, where it could have worked in close cooperation with the Anglo-American chiefs of staff.

Mr. Curtin also announced that Sir Earle Page would continue to represent Australia in London and serve as the Commonwealth's representative on the Pacific War Council; but he disclosed that Sir Earle will be recalled soon, because "if one is too long away from his Government he is apt to lose touch with the conditions at home."

AUSTRALIAN PLIGHT EMBITTERS LEADERS

Menzies and Curtin Exchange Criticisms for Current Dangers to Country

LISBON, February 9.—(Special)—The immediate danger of Japanese invasion upon the mainland of Australia with the fall of Singapore and the occupation of south Pacific islands by Imperial Forces has brought about a bitter exchange of criticisms between the present and preceding cabinet leaders in that country.

Robert Gordon Menzies, former Australian prime minister, appealed for direct aid for his country in an article published in the London Daily Express. He said that with the fall of Singapore there would be no base linking Australia with the United States. Members of his government are outspokenly declaring that the marked lack of confidence prevalent in the Commonwealth that aid will come from England is proof that some Australians are in collusion with the Axis Powers.

Trust in England Mistake

The present administration of Prime Minister John Curtin counter-charged that its predecessors brought about the current plight of the country by listening to everything the English said.

Meanwhile, the Australian War Cabinet met on February 3 to discuss the defense of the Commonwealth on the premise that the mainland would be subjected to direct assault. It decided at that session to prohibit mass evacuation of civilians from any area unless such movement was necessary from a military point of view. It was further determined to spread vital industries and stocks of raw materials away from the coasts into the interior. The announcement was made that men up to the age of 65 years were liable to be conscripted into the Home Guards for local defense.

Reminiscences of Marquis Komura

(Continued From Page 6)

Marquis Komura. Now, there is another thing I cannot omit mentioning, relative to the meritorious services rendered by the Marquis.

Harriman's Proposal

BY virtue of the Peace Treaty concluded at Portsmouth between Japan and Russia, the Russian railway in Manchuria south of Changchun, as a spoil of war, was ceded to Japan. The railway had been built by the Russians primarily for military purposes. Accordingly, in order to convert the railway into a commercial one everything had to be fundamentally renewed. But Japan at that time was not in a position to easily meet the enormous outlay necessary for the undertaking in view. Just then a proposal was made to the Japanese Government by Mr. Harriman, a prominent financier of America then known as the King of the U.S. railways, that the Manchurian railway be transferred to a certain American syndicate that it might manage transportation business in the form of an American-Japanese joint stock company. This proposal was almost accepted by the Japanese Government and approved by elder statesmen. At this critical time, Marquis Komura returned from Portsmouth.

When he was told by the Premier that the Government had provisionally decided upon accepting the American offer regarding the Manchurian railway, he must have felt as if he had been struck by lightning, knowing that the railway was the most precious of the few spoils of war, won at the cost of the blood of hundreds of thousands of Japanese soldiers, and by his own supreme efforts at Portsmouth. He deemed the idea of the Government unthinkable and preposterous.

Takes Firm Stand

With his characteristic firmness, the farsighted statesman expressed himself absolutely opposed to the American proposal. He called on the elder statesmen and other men of influence one after another and laid his views before them, and eventually it was decided that the Government should cancel the provisional agreement given to Mr. Harriman.

The name of Marquis Jutaro Komura will be remembered forever by all of us, in relation to the history of the Manchurian railway.

The policy of the Marquis toward Manchuria and China was nothing other than the continental policy of Japan at present, and in nowise founded on any territorial design. I have no doubt whatsoever, that the continental policy of Marquis Komura was already aimed at the construction of the common prosperity sphere for the Asiatic nations. If the Marquis were still living today, he would greatly rejoice to see the arrival of an excellent opportunity for executing his cherished foreign policy.

To Exempt Stars

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 10.—The United States Government will exempt Hollywood movie stars from military service if their producers consider them indispensable, according to a Washington report received here today.

NEW MOVE EVIDENT IN POLITICAL ARENA

Formation of Strong Group Discussed as Candidates Worry Over Coming Election

The question of organizing a new strong political party has been again discussed, now that the examination of Government bills at the Diet has so smoothly and rapidly progressed and the session is likely to be adjourned within the present week. The general election of the members of the House of Representatives, as already decided, is to be held on April 30, and preparations for the election campaign are being made by the present Lower Members and others who plan to run as candidates for election.

At present, within the House of Representatives there are four negotiating bodies, the Yokusan-Giin-domei, Doko-kai, First Room, and Koa-Giin-domei, besides another small group called the Giin-club. Under the present structure, each member will become a candidate for election individually and election campaign will therefore also be made individually.

At the Lower House budget committee meeting held on January 29, Premier General Hideki Tojo explained, in reply to the question by Chairman Matsumura of the budget committee, that the Imperial Rule Assistance Adults' Corps and the Dai-Nippon East Asia League which are affiliated with the Imperial Rule Assistance Association are public organizations formed under Article 3 of the Peace Preservation Police Law, and that the Government will control their political activities. Now the voice for forming a strong political party is heard because the present members of the House of Representatives who have long been used to election campaigns conducted by political parties are feeling uneasy and uncertain regarding the result of the coming election campaign which they must conduct individually.

At the same time, another view demanding the dissolution of all negotiating bodies in the House is now also heard. This movement is aimed at having a large number of new members elected to the House so that the entire atmosphere will be changed.

Again, those demanding the formation of a strong new party are divided into two groups. One is asking for the organization of a new party before election, while the other is demanding that such a new party must be formed after the election. As to the structure of the new party, various different opinions are expressed, some hoping to form the party with the members of the House of Representatives alone, while others wish to include outsiders as well.

As to the head of the proposed new party, Admiral Nobumasa Suyetsugu is mentioned, while General Senjuro Hayashi, Chuji Machida, and Chikuhei Nakajima are also named.

Thus, the movement for a new strong party has not yet taken any definite and concrete form, but it is gaining force gradually.

London Rumors Denied

D.N.B.

VICHY, February 9.—The report, spread a few days ago by the London radio alleging that Chief Moro Naba, of Bonduku on the French Ivory Coast, together with his tribe had joined the De Gaullist movement, was emphatically denied by competent quarters.

Kobe Notes

A series of lectures, covering a wide range of subjects, are currently being held under the auspices of the Education Ministry and the Kobe University of Commerce at the Kobe Y.M.C.A. at Shimoyamate-dori 6-chome. The lectures commenced on Monday, February 9, and will continue up to February 20, each lecture starting at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Although admittance is limited to 500, an average of 850 persons are flocking nightly to the Y.M.C.A., showing how popular the scheme is proving with the general public.

On Monday evening, an opening address was delivered by President Maruya of the Kobe University of Commerce, following which Professor Kimura gave the first lecture. He spoke on "State Control of Important Industries." On February 12 and 13, Professor Tanaka will speak on "The New Structure of Finance and its Developments"; on February 14 and 16 Professor Miyata will have as his subject "The Principles of Controlled Economy"; on February 17 and 18 Professor Yagi will explain "The New Structure of Labor" while on the last two days Professor Fujii will lecture on "Trade With in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere." All the lecturers are professors attached to the Kobe University of Commerce.

The following visitors were registered at the Tor Hotel on February 10: Mr. and Mrs. C. Bornhorst, Miss Bornhorst and Master Bornhorst, Mr. W. Cohnitz, Mr. G. Fust, Mr. H. Hoffmeyer, Mr. B. de Heppeger, Mr. W. Hahn, Mr. J. Iwaki, Mr. R. Katada, Mr and Mrs. K. Susaki, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. de Lenoine, Mr. A. Lesourd, Mr. K. Nezawa, Dr. and Mrs. W. Prahl, Master H. Prahl and Master H. Prahl, Mr. and Mrs. A. Takata, Mr. and Mrs. K. Takeda.

The following telegram is lying undelivered at the Foreign Section of the Kobe Central Telegraph Office: Shanghai to Maizels Prima Exports Uedabldg Uedamachi.

ISOLATIONISTS ENDEAVOR TO SHIFT U.S. DELIVERIES

Washington to Concentrate American Fighting Power in The Pacific

D.N.B.

LISBON, February 9.—According to the Financial News, great efforts are being made in the United States by certain circles to concentrate the whole American fighting power in the Pacific. This would affect not only United States' deliveries to England but also shipments to the Soviet Union. The isolationists, are again making their voices heard, after a long silence, it is said.

It would be detrimental to Great Britain if the sending of all material resources were prevented, particularly if these circles succeeded in shifting the deliveries of materials from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the Financial News declares. England would then, this paper continues, be compelled to concentrate more on the European and African fronts. However, the Financial News added Great Britain, in the long run, will fail to support all her war fronts, as she is not in a position to supply all fronts with her resources.

MALTA AIR FORCE FACING PURSUIT PLANE SHORTAGE

British Planes Extremely Reluctant to Fight German Air Raiders

Transocean

BERLIN, January 31.—It is significant that the British pursuit planes stationed on Malta are now extremely reluctant to accept battle with the German planes. This reluctance is obviously due to the fact that numerous British pursuit planes, which tried to intercept the German bombers, were shot down by the escorting German pursuit planes.

During the last 24 hours, no British pursuit planes were encountered by the German air formations which raided Malta. In the course of the past two nights as well as on January 29, several airdromes in Malta were again effectively bombed. British pursuit planes did not make any attempt to intercept the raiders, which dropped their bombs right between the British planes on the ground, setting on fire several of these planes.

Radio Program

Subject to Change Without Notice

Regular Program (Weekdays)

NEWS: 6, 7, 8, 10 a.m.; 12, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, and 11 p.m.
TIME: 7 a.m.; 12, 7, and 10 p.m.
Radio Exercise: 7, 8:50 a.m. (National schools).
Market Report: 11:30 a.m.; 4:30 p.m.
National School Hour: 11 a.m.; 2, and 4 p.m.
Music for Workers: 3:30 p.m.
Wartime Housekeeping Hour: 10:30 a.m.
Program Announcement: 5:30 p.m.
Juvenile Hour: 10:30 a.m.

Thursday

—Morning—

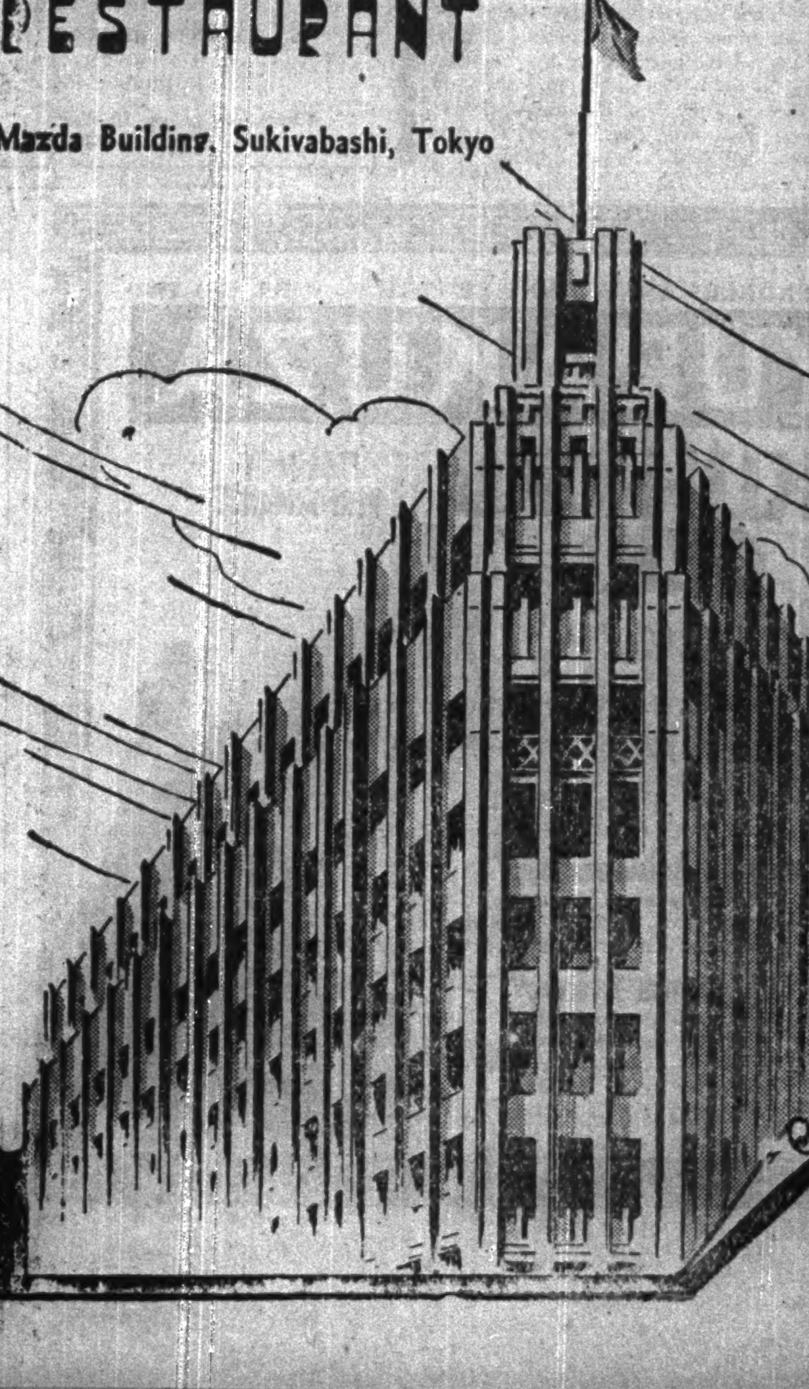
6:30 Serial Lecture on "Story of Southern Sphere Culture (1)," by Takeo Itazawa.
7:30 "National Resolution," by Taketora Ogata; Patriotic Poem Recital by Noburo Nakamura.
8:00 News; Orchestra: "Symphony No. 88" (Haydn) and Overture "Leonore, No. 1" (Beethoven).
10:30 Wartime Housekeeping Hour: Talk, "Clothing Points," by Motobumi Kondo.

—Afternoon—

12:00 Time; News; Shakuhachi Concert; Piano solo by Hirohisa Masuo.
1:00 Narration: "The Story of Burma," by Announcer Tateno.
1:30 Serial Talk, "The Establishment of New Living."
2:00 National School Hour: Serial Lecture on The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere: Talk Peoples of Greater East Asia by Yasuke Tsurumi.
4:00 Wartime National Educational Lecture: "Scientific Technique and The War of Greater East Asia," by Junichi Sugai.

—Evening—

6:00 Little Nation's Hour: News.
6:30 Farmers' Hour; Talk, Artificial Fertilizer," by Susumu Mitsui.
7:30 Wartime National Text-Book Hour: "The Collapse of The British Empire."
8:00 Military Affairs Announcement; Naniwabushi.
9:00 News; Talk, "¥21,000,000,000 Budget Approved by The Diet Session," by Dr. Masatake Ohta; Matsumoto String Quartet Band; "String Quartet in F Major" (A. Ogura, Op. 5) and "String Quartet in A Minor" (S. Ozaki, Op. 1).
10:00 Time; Today's War Situation; News.



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GERMAN firm in Tokyo requires experienced, reliable and efficient bookkeeper Please apply stating particulars to Box 12, Japan Times, Tokyo.

VACANCY in German firm for lady office clerk, with knowledge of English, typewriting and preferably some accounting Apply stating particulars to Box 13, Japan Times, Tokyo.

WANTED immediately cook-amah for foreign family of three. Good salary. Box 16, Japan Times, Tokyo.

Situation Wanted

COOK, age 40, experienced in German cooking, good recommendation. Apply Box 586, Japan Times, Yokohama.

YOUNG foreign girl seeks position. Has experience in stenography and accounting. Apply Box 5, Japan Times, Tokyo.

Wanted to Rent, Tokyo

JAPANESE or foreign style furnished cottage in Miyanoshita or Hakone. Apply Box 18, Japan Times, Tokyo.

SINGLE German wants to rent European or Japanese furnished house. Azabu or Akasaka preferred. Box 11, Japan Times, Tokyo.

For Rent, Tokyo

IMMEDIATELY small furnished room in foreign house, Nogizaka. Box 15, Japan Times, Tokyo.

For Rent, Yokohama

LARGE foreign house, furnished, complete with telephone and electric refrigerator. Convenient to bus and tram. Apply Box 585, Japan Times, Yokohama.

Instruction Wanted

INSTRUCTION in Japanese script wanted by young German lady, preferably in Yokohama. Has some knowledge of spoken language. Please apply Box 584 Japan Times, Yokohama.

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LADY'S Ski shoes, in good condition, size 38, wanted to buy. Box 17, Japan Times, Tokyo.

PIANOS, electric refrigerators, furniture, carpets, safes, wanted at high prices. Especially attractive prices will be paid for pianos or electric refrigerators. Apply Shioda Shoten, 20, 2-chome, Kamidori, Shibuya-ku, or telephone to Aoyama 36-5837 and ask for Shioda.

PIANOS, organs, Victor electric phonographs. High prices paid. Apply Miura, 23 Tamachi, Hongo-ku, Tel. Koishikawa 85-6479.

PIANOS used, grand or upright, at attractive prices. No objection to slight damages. Please write to Box 564, Japan Times, Yokohama.

SHORT wave radio wanted by a diplomat, must be in good condition. Box 19, Japan Times, Tokyo.

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USED clothing, decorative articles, gramophone records and other things bought at reasonable prices. Please write to Merisecoya, 35 Motomachi 1-chome, Kobe-ku, Kobe.

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REAL estate bought, sold or administered. Apply to Kurasawa Real Estate Agency, 126 Furuichi-cho, Kamata-ku, Tokyo. Tel. Kamata 3517.

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PIANOS, imported or domestic, grand or upright, rented at moderate charge. Particulars obtainable from Otsuka Piano Shokai, 7, Honcho 1-chome, opposite Yokohama Memorial Hall. Tel. 2-2370.

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HIDEYOSHI Dental Office. Dr. I. Hideyoshi, D.D.S., Dr. T. Takashima, D.D.S. Crown, bridge and porcelain work, and general dental operations. Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Hideyoshi Bldg., 5, 5-chome, Ginza Nishi, on the street leading to the Ginza from the Imperial Hotel side entrance. Tel. Ginza (57) 1210, 3652, 2663.

K. IIZUKA, D.D.S. (Penn., U.S.A.). Specialist in crown, bridge and porcelain work. Office hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Room 651 (6th floor), Marunouchi Bldg. Tokyo. Tel. Marunouchi 23-0648.

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MASSEUSE. Will call by appointment. Legation and embassy staff and prominent foreigners are listed among our patrons. Makimura-Munetomo Chiryosho, 23 Sakuragawa-cho, Shiba-ku, Tel. Shiba 43-3787.

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HIBIYA-HOSPITAL. Surgery, skin and blood diseases. Director Dr. S. Fukase, M.D. English and German spoken. Hours: 9-11 a.m., 2-6 p.m. 3 minutes from Imperial Hotel and Shimbashi Station. Tel. 57-2890.

PROF. Dr. S. Miyashita. Eye Specialist. English and German spoken. Hours: 2:30-5 p.m. Weekdays only. Daiichi-Sogo Building, Kyobashi tram crossing. Tel. Kyobashi 56-4464.

PROF. Dr. K. Nakajima, skin and blood disease specialist. English, French and German spoken. Hours: 9-12 a.m., 3-4 p.m., until noon on Sundays and holidays. 1 Ginza-nishi 5-chome, 2nd floor of Taya Store on street car line from Sukiyabashi, a few blocks from Imperial Hotel side entrance. Tel. 57-0315.

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Historic Movie Being Shown

Beginning Wednesday, a motion picture record of the War of Greater East Asia is being shown at the three leading theaters—Hogakuza, Taishokan and Musashinokan—in the capital. Above photo shows one of the most exciting scenes from the photoplay.

NEW MOVIE SET-UP WORKS NEXT MONTH

Business to Be Started but Actual Control of Distribution Comes April 1

Feeling an urgent need of launching cultural activity through motion pictures in the South Seas under Japanese influence, the Towa Shoji has decided to commission the sale of all new and released films in stock, 250 in number, to the newly-established motion picture distribution company, in consonance with the distribution control of dramatic films, now scheduled to be enforced from April 1. It is reported that the proceeds from the distribution of these pictures will be deposited with the Board of Information as the funds for a motion picture cultural campaign in the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

With necessary steps for the establishment of the Japan Motion Picture Production Company having been set-up following the amalgamation of the Shinko and Daito companies, the new dramatic film production activity will formally be undertaken from April by Shochiku, Toho and Daiyei as the three central production organs, which will constitute the nucleus of the so called wartime structure in the Japanese cinema industry.

With the support of the Board of Information, the Home and Education Ministries, a motion picture distribution company, the first of its kind in Japan, will start business early next month, distributing newsreels and culture features, now being handled by the Japan Eigasha. But the distribution of dramatic films will be managed from April. At a recent meeting held jointly by the officials and civilians concerned, Taiji Uyemura was formally appointed president of the new company.

An officially endorsed picture among the latest domestic productions is the sequel to "Genroku Chushingura" (The Loyal Retainers of the Genroku Era). This is the third time that the Education Ministry approved the picture since last month. The first part of the film of the same title also was recommended by the Ministry last December. Shochiku is the producer of the picture which deals with the famous tale of the 47-Ronin of Lord Asano. Another approval the second of this year was given to "Umi no Haha" (Mother of the Sea), a dramatic film by Nikkatsu. The theme of the story is maternal love.

"Hokkyo Nikki" (The Diary of the Northern Waters), a new picture by Asahi Eiga, has been approved by the Education Ministry as an excellent culture feature. Two additional features, simultaneously approved, were "Umi Washi" (Sea Eagles) and "Shuko" (The Peal River).

Preparations are now being made for the shipment of "Dai Toa Senso Gekimetsu Senki" (The Diary of the Greater East Asia War), a newsreel by the Japan Eigasha, to the Axis Powers and various places in the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. The picture depicts the extensive war news in picture, covering the period from the outbreak of the war to the fall of Hongkong. The picture is now being released at various local motion picture theaters.

Two outstanding cultural features, to be released on local screens from February 19, will be "Pekin no Shogatsu" (The New Year Holidays of Peking) by Ko-on, and "Shio-o Tsukuru Hitobito" (People Who Produce Salt) by Dai Nippon Tenen. The former will be shown at theaters under the Shochiku banner while the latter at those under the Nikkatsu and Shinko management.

A total of 468,000 feet of raw film including negative, sound and positive materials, for the production of motion pictures, will be distributed as the February allotment to Shochiku, Toho and Daito, the three leading producers.

The shooting of "Asagao Nikki" (The Diary of a Blind Woman), planned by the Daito Eiga, has been cancelled.

Under the joint auspices of the dramatic section of the Shochiku Company, Osaka, and the Kyoto studio of the same concern, plans were made to organize a new theatrical troupe, to be headed by Ryotaro Kawanami, a screen actor. The Shochiku Eiga Gekidan is the tentative name of the projected troupe, which will make its first stage performance in Kansai early in March. It will consist of 40 screen actors and actresses of the Kyoto studio.

"Ningen Doshi" (Fellow-Men), a humorous feature picture, will be directed by Noboru Nakamura, who is remembered for the production of "Kekkon no Riso" (The Ideal of a Marriage), and "Aratanaru Kofuku" (The New Happiness). Michiko Kuwano, Hiroko Kawasaki, Tatsuo Saito and Shin Saburi will have important roles in the contemplated picture.

The Chinese Motion Picture Company in Shanghai, which has been endeavoring to introduce Japan in China through newsreels and culture pictures, has decided to release "Kawanakajima no Kassen" (The Battle of Kawanakajima), a screen play by Toho, emphasizing "Bushido," the code of the Japanese warriors and regarded as one of the excellent productions.

The presentation of stage attractions at cinema houses will be unified in the near future. Stage attractions have been widely utilized by motion picture theaters in order to cover the restricted showing of dramatic films. To rationalize stage shows at motion picture houses, which has in the past been supervised by police authorities, the Education Ministry is now planning to establish a control organ for stage attraction programs under the support and instruction of the Government offices concerned.

The Japan Eigasha and Toho will jointly send a party of motion picture mechanics to Aomori Prefecture, where they will open a circuit performance of war newsreels starting February 17, at 20 towns and villages remote to urban districts. Five other groups have already been sent to Hokkaido, Kyushu, Ishikawa, Niigata and Hiroshima prefectures to exhibit the latest newsreels of the war, particularly for the purpose of entertaining industrial workers in mining districts.

Nikkatsu has acquired the right of operating the 12 motion picture theaters of Kyoto, formerly managed by the Kyoto Real Estate Company.

In order to meet the distribution control of dramatic films, the Daito Eiga has announced it will produce eight feature motion pictures in four months, starting April, when "Sonno Zakura" (The Loyalist), a historical play by Fuji Yahiro, and "Yamasando" (The Mountain Approach to a Tombyard) by Yutaka Mafune, will be placed before the cameras.

Five leading staff writers of the Tokyo Hassei, which was recently dissolved because of the establishment of a new structure in the motion picture industry, have been signed by the Toho Eiga to write scenarios for dramatic pictures. They are Kazunobu Shigemune, Yasutaro Yagi, Shiro Toyoda, Kinya Ogura and Seiji Ishikawa.

What of the Rialto?

By Tsunejiro Amakata

Extensive preparations are now under way by the Shochiku Theatrical Company for the presentation of a large-scale program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Kakitsu Bando. The performance will be given at the Kabukiza next month. Kakitsu is the famed Kabuki actor during the closing years of the Tokugawa Shogunate and the early Meiji era. He was the foster-father of Uzayemon Ichimura, who dominates the contemporary stage as one of the big 10 actors of Tokyo Kabuki-dom. Uzayemon will play in the program. The other principal players will be Kikugoro Onoye, Sojuro Sawamura and Mitsugoro Bando.

Members of the Shinsei Shimpa, now playing at the Tokyo Gekijo, will continue their performance next month when they will take over the Meijiza with a new program. Another company of actors and actresses under the name of Shimpa headed by Rokuro Kitamura will play at the Tokyo Gekijo in March. They have been playing since early this month at the Nakaza, Osaka, from where they will return to the capital in the last week of this month.

With the presentation of a special performance of plays and music at the Kabukiza January 28, the Kabukikai, a group of noted Kabuki players and musicians of nagauta school, succeeded in raising the contribution funds, amounting to ¥1,886.55. The entire proceeds were recently donated to the relief departments of the War and Navy Ministries.

Ennosuke Ichikawa, one of the outstanding Kabuki actors, has recently been appointed a member of the board of directors of the Chuo Gekijo. The Chuo Gekijo is a newly-established theatrical company under the management of the Fuji Amusement Enterprises with a capital of ¥189,000. The new company will devote itself to the enhancement of theatrical activities in urban districts.

Progress is being made on the renovation of a dance hall on the fifth floor of the Teitoza building, Shinjuku district to use it as a theater both for screen and stage offerings. The opening of the theater is scheduled for the middle of March.

Although details have not been announced, a new drama dealing with the attitude and determination of Nisei in Japan will be use as one of the presentations by a troupe of screen players to be known as the Shin Engiza, which is planning to play at the local Takarazuka Gekijo from March 1 for a long run. Kazuo Hasegawa and Isuzu Yamada will be the leading members of the new troupe. Other plays scheduled to be staged by the Shin Engiza will be "Sagi Musume" (Daughter of Snowy Heron) and "Oshima Sentaro" (The Romance of Oshima and Sentaro), a part of the lengthy drama entitled "Hebihime Sama" (Lady Serpent), produced a few years ago with success on the stage.

Opening tomorrow at the Koen Gekijo, Asakusa Park, is a new bill, consisting of two plays. They are "Kinno Ichidai Onna" (A Woman Patriot) and "Ohara Yugaku" (Ohara Private School).

The Nippon Gekijo Kyokai organized a party of vaudeville performers, which left here yesterday for North China to make an extended tour to entertain Japanese soldiers at the front. The group is headed by Seiha Iguchi and Suzumitsu Hanayagi.

"Aomi Oshima no Hanayome" (The Bride of Aomi Oshima Island), a new musical show, will be produced as a stage attraction at the Nippon Gekijo, starting tomorrow.

An extra joint performance of the Toho Gekidan, Toho Ido Bunkatai and Gekidan Todo will be presented at the Yurakuza at noon, February 21. The program consists of three plays. They are "Musuko" (Son) by the late Kaoru Osanai, "Uzumoreta Haru" (A Buried Spring) by Ujaku Akita, and "Itachi" (A Weasel) by Yutaka Mafune.

The Kokumin Shin Gekijo at Tsukiji will open tomorrow with a new program, featuring "Kojin" (Yellow Dust), a new play by Hiroshi Uyeda. The performance will be given until February 22. All members of the Bungakuza modern school dramatic troupe will play.

Taking advantage of the forthcoming memorial performance for Kakitsu Bando to be presented at the Kabukiza in March, Shinsui Bando, one of the popular young actors, will assume the name of Hikosaburo, the VII. Shinsui has been playing an important part in the traditional Japanese theater, particularly after the organization some years ago of the Kabukikai with his followers Kikunosuke Onoye, Fukusuke Nakamura and Ebizo Ichikawa. Shinsui is the son of the Hikosaburo Bando, who died two years ago after a long and distinguished stage career.

In view of the popularity gained since the opening of the current performance, the Shinsei Shimpa will specially stage "Junigatsu Yoka no Saigon" (Saigon on December 8), a war drama, at 1 p.m. at the Tokyo Gekijo. The drama, one of the star attractions at the Tokyo Gekijo, currently will be featured by young members of the Shinsei Shimpa, including Usui, Ikegami, and Matsumiya.

EAST ASIA WAR FILM IS SHOWN IN TOKYO

Movie Record of Battle of Annihilation Released at Three Leading Houses

"The War of Greater East Asia," a motion picture showing the activities of the Japanese Forces over extensive battle fronts in the southwest Pacific, was released for a limited engagement beginning Wednesday at the Hogakuza, Taishokan and Musashinokan in the capital. In Yokohama, it will be shown starting February 22.

Throughout, the film vividly shows the brilliant accomplishments of the land, air and sea units of the Imperial Forces dealing death blows to various enemy strategic positions. The picture gives the graphic description of the War of Greater East Asia right from the beginning until the fall of Hongkong, bringing before the eyes of the public the hardships of the officers and men in performing their gigantic task of emancipating the East Asiatic peoples from the poisonous fangs of the Anglo-American Powers and thus, giving them a new world in which they may live in peace and contentment.

The picture, running in all to nine reels, was produced and presented by the Nippon Eigasha under the supervision of the Board of Information.

DIPLOMAT TRANSLATES NOH PLAY INTO ITALIAN

Salvatore Merge's Work Scheduled for Publication and Dramatization Shortly

Salvatore Merge, a secretary-interpreter of the Italian Embassy in Tokyo, has just completed translating the text of the Noh play, "Churei" or Royal Soul, by Motomasa Kanze, a noted Noh master. Churei was first staged in the compound of the Yasukuni Shrine last November.

Greatly impressed by the performance of Churei, Salvatore Merge immediately set to work on the translation of the text into the Italian language with the conviction that this play would most eloquently introduce the Japanese spirit to foreigners. The translation which has just been completed, will be published soon.

Mr. Merge plans to send his manuscript to Italy and it is expected that the play will be produced before long in that country.

The translator, who has a profound knowledge of Japanese literary classics, is now said to be translating "Genji Monogatari," the oldest novel in the world.

In regard to his work, Mr. Merge said: "Inspired by the lofty spirit of Churei, I completed my translation in four days. I would like to express my gratitude to Harukichi Shimoi, his Excellency Mario Indelli, the Italian Ambassador, and the counselors of the Embassy who have assisted me in this work."

'TREASURE BOATS' FROM SOUTH SOON

Ships Laden With Rice, Rubber, Sugar, Tin, Corn and Rock Phosphate Coming

In the course of a regular session of the House of Peers February 10, Count Hirotaro Hayashi, chairman of the budget committee, disclosed that many "treasure ships" from territories occupied by the Japanese Forces in the South are due in Japan in the near future.

Count Hayashi's report was based on information released by Major-General Akira Muto, director of the Military Affairs Bureau, in his reply to an interpellation at the full meeting of the budget committee of the House of Peers February 7. Major-General Muto stated that the military authorities on the spot are surmounting various difficulties in making the shipments possible. The commodities involved are as follows:

Rice—45,000 tons. Of the total quantity, 12,000 tons have already been transported; 13,000 tons are now in transit while ships have been assigned for the transportation of the remaining quantity.

Rubber—16,000 tons. Of the total quantity, 2,000 tons have already reached Japan Proper, 1,500 tons are in transit while assignment of ships has been made for the transportation of 6,500 tons of the remaining amount.

Sugar—37,500 tons. Of the total quantity, 22,500 tons have already reached Japan Proper while 15,000 tons are in transit.

Rock phosphate—500 tons. Necessary steps are being taken for its transportation.

Tin—100 tons. Necessary steps are being taken for its transportation.

Apart from the above, 3,600 tons of maize and 3,300 tons of corn-flour are now en route to Japan Proper.

TAIWAN YOUTHS WORKING IN PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Faithful Service of Colonials Noted Since Arrival on Lingayen Bay

Faithfulness and service on the part of the Taiwan youths organized into a "Special Patriotic Labor Company" with the Japanese Forces in the Philippines are much in evidence since their arrival with the troops on Lingayen Bay on January 18.

Assisting Japanese Forces in transporting munitions and supplies, their services are much in demand, attesting to their popularity. They have accompanied Japanese troops to the front lines and are cooperating in many other ways besides diligently attending to transportation duties, even cleaning rice for the soldiers.

Those Taiwanese get up at 6:30 a.m. respond to roll call and pay homage in the direction of the Imperial Palace. After breakfast they work until lights-out at 8:30 p.m.

Noteworthy is the fact that at least 60 per cent of them have determined to remain in the Philippines.

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3. JAPANESE ETIQUETTE
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Admission: ¥1.00, ¥1.40, ¥2.10, ¥3.20 (incl. tax)

1. Opera "Meiba Surusumi" 3 scenes
(The well-known charger in Japanese history)
Produced and arranged by Mr. I. Hisamatsu.
Music by Mr. G. Sudo

2. Dancing "Kanki no Uta" 1 scene
(A Song of Gratitude)
Produced and arranged by Mr. I. Miki

3. Opera "SHIN KAGUYAHIME" 16 scenes
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Music by Mr. I. Kawasaki

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1. "GEKIMETSU IGO" (After annihilation)
Supported by the Ministry of Navy 1 act
Arranged by Mr. T. Sasaki.
Stage by Mr. K. Shima

2. "Mantsune Kudamonodonya"
(A wholesale fruit shop Mantsune) 2 acts
Produced by Mr. G. Hirose. Arranged by Mr. J. Sekiguchi. Stage by Mr. U. Hamada

3. "Gishi Hazama Shinroku" 3 acts
(One of the famous forty-seven Ronin of the Genroku Era)
Produced by Mr. R. Yukitomo.
Arranged by Mr. M. Taniya
Stage by Mr. S. Kondo.

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WILLY FORST

21st-25th Feb.
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Valentine Tessier
in
Club de Femmes
(French-made)
Directed by
JACQUES DEVAL

19th-20th Feb.
Zara Leander
Willy Birgel
in
La Habanella
Directed by
DETLEF SIERCK

26th-28th Feb.
Allo, Berlin?
Ici, Paris
Directed by
JULIEN DUVIVIER

SAVINGS EMPHASIZED BY JAPAN BANK HEAD

Yuki Says Life Should Be Simplified So as to Curb Excess Spendings

WONDERS AT OWN POWER

Balance Must Be Kept Between Money Circulation and Goods Supply

The nation must save more money by simplifying as much as possible its daily life in order to prosecute successfully the war against the United States and Britain and to secure funds for expanding productive power at home and developing the natural resources in the South, declared Toyotaro Yuki, governor of the Bank of Japan in a nationwide radio talk Tuesday night.

"The extraordinary military budgets that passed the Diet from 1937 up to 1942 amounted to an enormous sum of ¥47,000,000,000. How to meet the ever-increasing war expenditures is the most important problem before the financial authorities and of all people in this country at this hour. All the expenditures required for the prosecution of war must be disbursed either through an increase in taxation or the flotation of bonds. In other words, the war expenditures must be met by the accumulation of funds by the expansion of productivity and the restriction of national consumption.

Strength Surprising

"Immediately following the start of the China Affair, Japan's funded debts totaled ¥10,500,000,000. During the past four and a half years, the figure increased by ¥27,500,000,000. However, we are rather surprised at our own great economic strength which has been easily digesting these prodigious funded debts of the country every year. The Government expects to issue bonds amounting to ¥16,300,000,000 in the 1942-43 fiscal year.

"In addition to the prosecution of the war, Japan must carry out the development of the natural resources in the South which also requires large sums of money. At the same time, expansion of productive power has to be carried on as vigorously as ever. The entire nation is responsible for supplying funds for the enforcement of these three great projects.

"Generally speaking, the balance between the circulation of money and the supply of goods is very important to economic operations. This has become all the more important in time of war. The Bank of Japan accepts the bonds issued by the Government, and the money the Government gets from the bank in return for the bonds is spent at home. As a result of large spendings by the Government, national incomes increase steadily, and the purchasing power begins to grow larger. To prevent the purchasing power from growing unabated, the consumption of goods by the nation must be restricted to some extent, and more efforts should be made to increase the production of goods inside the country.

"Japan must win this war by all means, and to this end, the energies of the nation must be regulated into the production of war materials. The national purchasing power and the demand for civilian goods must be kept in good balance."

MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD FOR INDUSTRY DISCUSSION

Vital Industry Control Association Drafts Resolutions on Business Lines

The Council of the Vital Industry Control Associations called the first meeting of presidents of respective control associations Wednesday at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, for a discussion of problems common to all branches of the industry.

Kenjiro Matsumoto, president of the Coal Control Association, was in the chair. The meeting listened to reports on studies made by various people on several questions. After deliberated discussions the meeting adopted the following resolutions.

(1) In view of no small inconvenience felt by control associations, being disallowed from carrying on enterprises of their own management, proper actions should immediately be taken to rectify the situation.

(2) Regulations governing member companies of associations are not yet formulated except by the Iron Control Association. Drafting of such regulations by others must be expedited. It is also desired that all the associations should carry on joint studies on problems common to all of them.

(3) In view of the great importance the labor problem has for all the industry, the Council's Labor Committee should hold a meeting in the immediate future and have its connection with provincial branches of the Patriotic Industrialists Association clarified.

(4) Careful investigations should be conducted in order to prevent confusion over supervision of members of associations which operate manifold lines of business enterprises.

Bank of Japan Accounts

February 10
(In ¥1,000)

Note Issues	4,981,322
Over Issues	281,322
Deposits	705,385
Loans	567,289

New U.S. War Bond To Total $1½ Billion; Issue Limit to Go Up

New bond issues amounting to $1,500,000,000 on February 13 to cover war expenses were announced by the United States Department of the Treasury, a Domei report from Buenos Aires said. The United States is spending $2,000,000,000 a month for war purposes. An Havas report from Washington relayed to Domei from Buenos Aires said that U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, Henry Morgenthau, Jr. on February 9 intends to ask Congress for its approval of a bill setting the U.S. bond issue limit anew at $110,000,000,000. As at the end of 1943 the country's bond issues will reach this limit, it is said that Mr. Morgenthau wishes eventually to abolish the issue limit altogether. Another Buenos Aires dispatch said that the Office of Production Management at Washington had ordered the ordinary production of typewriters to be cut down by 20-25 per cent as a peacetime industry which is to be partially shifted to the war industry. Last year the United States turned out 1,000,000 typewriters.

CONCENTRATED MAKING OF TEXTILES PROJECTED

Cotton, Staple Fiber Weavers' Federation Meets to Discuss New Scheme

The Cotton and Staple Fiber Weavers' Federation held a meeting at its office in Tokyo on Tuesday and discussed a new scheme for concentrated production of cotton and staple fiber cloth. Present at the meeting were leading members of the Federation, technical officials of the Fiber Bureau of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, officers of the Japan Rayon Producers Association, the Fiber Institute and several control companies connected with this industry, reports the Chugai Shogyo.

The Federation, in order to concentrate the existing cotton and staple fiber weaving equipments had previously adopted a plan which called for the merger of small weavers into units of 300 looms, with 50 per cent of them allocated for actual operation, and 30 per cent and 20 per cent as first and second reserves to remain idle for the time being.

The plan, however, is considered not entirely satisfactory since corporate bodies so created possess looms not only for cotton and staple fiber, but also those for woolen, silk and rayon weaving as well, obstructing the concentration process.

Of the number of corporate bodies of different kinds of weavers created as of the end of 1941, those possessing only cotton and staple fiber looms numbered 503, 215 other possessing cotton and staple fiber looms mostly with a small number of rayon, silk and woolen looms, 139 possessing cotton, staple fiber and woolen looms, 148 possessing equal proportions of cotton, staple fiber, silk, rayon and woolen looms, and 86 possessing only rayon and silk looms.

Specialization Wanted

In order to enforce the scheme, it is felt imperative to make every merged body specialize in its own line, to the exclusion of others, and the following plan was formulated at the meeting:

(1) Cotton and staple fiber looms in the possession of corporate bodies of woolen, silk and rayon weavers should be transferred to corporate bodies of cotton and staple fiber weavers, or when that is inexpedient, machinery in question should be refitted for the use of their special line.

(2) The Commerce and Industry Ministry should be requested to grant supply of materials required for the removal of or rebuilding of machinery.

(3) Yarn distribution should be withheld from such corporate bodies which decline to carry out the concentration of machinery by kinds, or from individual weavers who decline to join any one of corporate bodies in the absence of a justifiable cause.

(4) Weavers of all kinds of textiles should be requested to effect rationalization of their equipment within a specified period, those failing to accomplish it to be subjected to reduced, or total withholding of yarn supply. The Government should be approached either for sanctioning this policy, or for adopting a better plan.

MARKED EFFICIENCY SHOWN IN MUNITIONS FACTORIES

Large Orders Placed by Navy With Small Workshops as Well as Factories

Intendant Major-General Yasumasa Kurihashi, director of the Army Intendance Bureau, and Paymaster Vice-Admiral Daisuke Takei, director of the Navy Accounts and Supplies Bureau, testified Tuesday at the committee for settlements of the House of Representatives to an improvement observed in the efficiency of munitions plants, and workers' attendance at factories, following the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. The substance of their statements appearing in the Asahi was as follows:

"The efficiency of munitions factories has shown a marked improvement following the commencement of the War of Greater East Asia. The rate of attendance of workers, despite the fact many of them have been withdrawn from factories by labor requisition, rose to the 92/93 per cent level from 87 per cent of the days preceding the war. This is considered a happy reflection of the patriotism of the people stimulated by the war.

"With regard to the filing of munitions orders with civilian manufacturers, the Navy has placed sizable orders, not only with larger factories, but with small workshops operated by a few workers. Orders placed by the Navy with them amounted to ¥13,000,000 in 1937, ¥18,000,000 in 1938, ¥22,000,000 in 1939 and ¥34,000,000 in 1940, showing successive rise in the amount year after year.

"The Navy also has made efforts for the improvement of efficiency of these small plants by dispatching its technicians to them thus accommodating them with technical guidance to their great improvement. They are also formed into industrialists' associations by provinces for the mutual promotion of efficiency."

ORDERS ARE ISSUED ON ENEMY PROPERTY

Finance Ministry Names Firms To Care for Business of Foreign Concerns

The Finance Ministry Tuesday added to its list of control of enemy property the Nederlandische Indische Handelsbank, N. V. and 57 other enemy concerns in Japan. As a result, the Yokohama Specie Bank and 26 Japanese corporations, or individuals were ordered to take charge of these enemy properties.

The control of the above-mentioned Dutch bank as well as the Nederlandishe Handel-Maatschappij, N. V. has been entrusted to the Yokohama Specie Bank. A large number of foreign insurance concerns is entrusted to the Tokyo Marine and Fire Insurance Company. These among others are the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, Limited; the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, Limited; the Yorkshire Insurance Company, Limited; the Commercial Union Assurance, Limited; the Nederlands Indische Company, Established 1845; the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited; the London Assurance Corporation; the Union Assurance Society Limited; the South British Insurance Company, Limited; the Home Insurance Company; the Caledonian Insurance Company; the Continental Insurance Company; the Royal Insurance Company, Limited; and several others.

To the control of the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company is left the following companies: the Guardian Assurance Company, Limited; the Phoenix Assurance Company, Limited; Northern Assurance Company, Limited; the London and Provincial Marine and General Insurance Company, Limited; and the Sun Insurance Office, Limited.

Also New Zealand Firm

The Alliance Assurance Company, Limited, the New Zealand Insurance Company, Limited, the Canton Insurance Office, Limited, the Royal Exchange Assurance; and others are left to the custody of the Taisho Marine and Fire Insurance Company.

The Clifford, Wilkinson Tansan Mineral Company, Limited, and the Gomei Kaisha Yokohama Tansan and Aerated Water Company have been given into the charge of the Dai Nippon Brewery Company.

The Nippon Kinsen Torokuki Kabushiki Kaisha, known as the cash register manufacturing company, is entrusted to the charge of Aiichiro Fujiyama at Imazato-cho, Shirokane, Shiba-ku. The Nippon National Cash Register Sales Company, Limited, is turned over to the care of Tatsuya Goto. The Nippon Watson Statistical Accounting Machine Company is left to the control of Nobunosuke Ginushi. The Singer Sewing Machine Company is left to Kenkichi Kimura of Yokohama.

The General Motors of Japan, Limited is entrusted to Hamakichi Yamamoto of Osaka. The Japan Ford Motor Company and Japan Ford Financing Company are left to Yasutatsu Yamamoto. The Japan Vacuum Oil Company is placed under control of Hanemon Morita. Sale and Company is left to Enzo Kishi and the Frazar Shokai, Frazar Dozoku K.K., the Union Estate and Investment Company, Limited to Jun Arima.

The Kodak Japan, Limited, is to be controlled by Ryuzo Kishi; R. M. Andrews by Kikuji Imai; Butterfield and Swire, Japan, Limited, the Swire Gomei Kaisha; and the Holt Gomei Kaisha by Zen-ichi Miki; and Y.C.A.C. (Yokohama Country and Athletic Club) by Ryozo Hiranuma.

WOOLEN FACTORIES TO RUN FULL BLAST

Weaving Machines to Be Used For Streamlining Japan's Woolen Industry

About 40 per cent of the weaving machines in Japan will be withdrawn from operation in order to promote the proposed reorganization of the Japanese wool industry, according to a plan recently mapped out by the Wool Industry Control Council, the Chugai Shogyo reports.

The plan was examined carefully and then approved at a joint-meeting of the representatives of the woolen goods manufacturers in this country held in this city a few days ago. The officials of the Commerce and Industry Ministry concerned in the matter were also present at the meeting and joined the representatives in scrutinizing the scheme.

According to the adopted plan, 40 per cent of the weaving machines in all factories owned by the members of the Japan Woolen Goods Manufacturers' Association will be used for the purpose of paving the way for streamlining the wool industry of this country. The factories which have to put 40 per cent of their weaving machines out of operation will be designated by the Wool Industry Control Council.

Will Pool Profits

At the same time, the council will establish a woolen goods manufacture control corporation in Tokyo and designate the factories which are to be run full blast in order to conduct the collective production of woolen goods in Japan.

The control corporation will pool its profits, and the principles to be adopted for the pooling will be determined by the Wool Industry Control Council, and the control corporation will decide on the allotments of the raw materials to be made in the designated factories.

PENAL CLAUSE EXPLAINED TO CLARIFY DAILY NEEDS

Hoarding or Refusal to Sell Wartime Necessaries to Be Punished by Criminal Code

A definition for the so-called "daily necessaries" was given by Katsumi Ikeda, Director of the Criminal Affairs Bureau of the Justice Ministry at the committee for the wartime special criminal code bill of the House of Representatives in reply to a query made by Representative Seiko Naito, Yokusan Giin-domei, on Monday.

Mr. Naito requested of Director Ikeda clarification of the term "daily necessaries" in connection with a penal clause contained in Article XV of the wartime special criminal code, providing imprisonment of five years or less, or a fine of ¥10,000 or less for buyers guilty of hoarding, or sellers guilty of refusing to sell daily necessaries.

Director Ikeda's elucidation on the point was as follows:

"By 'daily necessaries' are meant articles which are indispensable for the maintenance of wartime life of the people. Their contents are not something fixed immovably for ever, but are subject to changes with the progress of the war. For instance gasmasks may not be considered daily necessaries today, but may become such. If I was required to be more specific I might say that daily necessaries constitute rice, barley, wheat, rye, other grains, miso, soya-bean sauce, sugar, edible oil, fish, charcoal, vegetables and so forth. Animal fodder, however, may not be considered a daily necessary."

Dividend Rate Voted

Distribution of dividends at the rate of 8 per cent was voted at the meeting of the board of directors of the Nissan Chemical Industry Company held here Tuesday, the Yomiuri reports. Directors approved the plan to raise the limits of floating the company's debentures up to ¥100,000,000 from ¥60,000,000 at the same meeting. The company's net profits in the second half of the 1941-42 business year were given as ¥5,333,000.

Gold Will Hereafter Be Mere Commodity, Finance Minister Tells Peers Committee

Finance Minister Okinori Kaya declared that in the future the Government would regard gold as commodity and fix the price of gold independent of the value of the Japanese currency at such a level as will suit best the economic condition of the time. This remark was made in his reply to an interpellation by Viscount Kiyotaka Funabashi of the Kenkyukai at the meeting of the House of Peers people's rehabilitation bank bill committee on Tuesday, the Yomiuri reports.

Viscount Funabashi asked the Finance Minister in the committee meeting to clarify the future policy of the Government toward the production of gold in this country as well as the Government's policy to be adopted in fixing the price of gold.

Answering Viscount Funabashi, Mr. Kaya said that hereafter the Japanese Government would regard gold as mere commodity. He also said that as a result of the recent revision of the Bank of Japan Law the yen became the managed currency of Japan, definitely divorcing itself from gold, and that from now on, the price of gold would be fixed by the Government with cross reference to the economic condition of the day in this country and quite independent of the value of the Japanese currency.

"Accordingly," the Finance Minister continued, "the Government's policy regarding gold production would be pushed in this direction, and in view of the importance of gold as commodity, the Government will continue to subsidize all those engaged in the mining of gold in this country."

RATIONING BETTER AFTER YEAR'S TRIAL

Smoothness of Distribution Promises to Bring Joy to Housewives

Rationing of miso and soya-bean sauce will be much improved with the issuance of new distribution cards next month, assured the Tokyo Prefectural office, Tuesday, giving cheer to housewives. Their distribution of late was not quite up to the mark owing to technical difficulties in distribution. The authorities have improved their technique through the past one year's experience, and are confident of better management in the future. Questioned on the subject the Tokyo Prefectural office told the Kokumin as follows:

"Up to January 10, 1942 miso and soya-bean sauce were distributed to every household by the use of the rice rationing cards at the rate of 1.5 pounds of miso and 1.2 pints of soya-bean sauce per capita per month. But for the period after that to the end of January each person was supposed to have received 0.7 pints of sauce and 1.25 pounds of miso. Apparently, however, some people did not entirely understand, and failed to receive their portions. The situation was not improved as some sake (rice brew) and sauce dealers closed their shops in order to shape themselves into "distribution offices" to which they have lately been converted, making it impossible for people to buy what they wanted. Things are bound to improve after March when new distribution cards will be issued. The experience of the past one year in the rationing system has given invaluable training to both the authorities and people, and we are confident the machinery of distribution will run smooth in future. People will receive their rations promptly, and have no cause for anxiety. Adequate police supervision will also be exercised to prevent dealers from engaging in unlawful business."

DEBENTURES LIMIT GREATLY EXTENDED

Issues to Be Guaranteed by Government for Special Corporations

The limit of special corporate debentures to be issued under the guarantee of the Government in the future will reach ¥20,380,000,000, as a result of the establishment of special corporations and the limit of flotation of their debentures approved so far by the present Diet session. Extension of the limit of such debentures by corporations now in existence also approved by the Diet now in session.

The limit hitherto fixed was ¥10,560,000,000. This considerable increase bespeaks a phenomenal stride of Japan's finance under the wartime situation. It is mentioned that, of the limit of ¥20,380,000,000, ¥16,680,000,000 has not been issued yet.

How to absorb such a large amount of debentures appropriately is a question requiring painstaking study by the authorities of the Government and financial quarters. It is expected that enforcement of holdings of such debentures by various organizations will be realized. Details of these corporate debentures follow:

(1) Limit of special corporate debentures on Government guarantee hitherto fixed is ¥10,560,000,000, of which ¥3,700,000,000 has already been floated.

(2) Limit of special corporate debentures on Government guarantee after the 79th Diet session is ¥5,000,000,000. The new corporations having the privilege of floating such debentures are the Southern Development Bank, Wartime Financing Bank, Vital Material Control Corporation, Foodstuff Control Corporation and Clothing Control Corporation.

(3) Extension of the limit of special corporate debentures of corporations now in existence, which has been approved by the present Diet session, involves a total of ¥3,820,000,000.

(4) Limit of issue of debentures by the Industrial Equipment Corporation is ¥1,000,000,000.

(5) The grand total is ¥20,380,000,000, of which ¥16,680,000,000 has not yet been issued.

STABILITY OBSERVED IN FARM PRICE, RENT

Prices Rising Since China Affair Started Now Seen to Be Settling Down

Prices of farms and land rent in Japan which had been rising steadily ever since the start of the China Affair became stabilized recently, the Hypothec Bank of Japan announced a few days ago.

According to a survey conducted by the bank in March last year, the buying and selling prices of farms and tenant-rates stopped moving up and down in a wide range with the turn of 1941, and in March they came to a standstill.

In the course of the month, the prices of ordinary paddy fields averaged ¥688 per tan (0.245 acres) which represented a rise of only 0.1 per cent as compared with the corresponding period of 1940, while those of ordinary farms averaged ¥418 per tan, representing a decline of 0.9 per cent as compared with March, 1940.

This stability in the prices of paddy fields and farms has been caused by the shortage of labor and farming materials and the official control of the prices of agricultural produce. The gradual decrease in the building of factories and plants in agrarian areas in this country for the past or so has had the effect of preventing inordinate rising in the prices, says the survey.

The average rate per tan of paddy field in March, 1941 was 1.06 koku or a little more than 5 bushels in the unhulled rice, while the averaged tenant-rate per tan of the farm was ¥21.90. The former represented a drop of 0.9 per cent, the latter, a rise of 1.2 per cent.

Rent Going Down

Some signs that the tenant-rates for paddy fields and farms in this country will begin to go down before long are even discernible at present. For this decrease in rent the enforcement of the Tenant-rate Control Ordinance, the returning of farms and paddy fields to landowners by their tenants as a result of the shortage of labor and agricultural materials such as fertilizers and farming implements are considered responsible. At the same time, the wide gap between wages paid for workers in munitions factories in large cities and for the tenant-farmers, played an important role in reducing farm rent in this country since the discouraged tenant-farmers after returning their rented farms to landowners, left their villages one after another to get more lucrative jobs in large cities.

The prices of paddy fields and farms, and the tenant-rates for the paddy field and farm on the average in the past five years are as follows:

	Price		Rent	
	Paddy Field	Farm	Paddy Field	Farm
1937	¥470	¥157	1.04 koku	¥14.71
1938	¥519	¥187	1.05 koku	¥16.03
1939	¥576	¥208	1.06 koku	¥16.94
1940	¥687	¥248	1.07 koku	¥21.64
1941	¥688	¥248	1.06 koku	¥21.90

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(In ¥1,000)

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Balance	28,885	20,130
Bills Cleared	228,524	130,018

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TOKYO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1942

Superiority of Japanese Aircraft

British airmen who have fought against the Japanese fliers in the Malay area have testified that they have found Japanese-manufactured airplanes, to be superior in construction to the much publicized American machines like the Flying Fortresses, Buffalos, and Tomahawks. This admission should go far toward clarifying our opinions concerning Japanese air power and toward the future prospects of the war in general.

The indomitable courage and daring which Japanese aviators share with all Japanese fighters irrespective of their branch of the service has by this time become well known to the entire world. We Japanese have been aware in addition of the fact that the Japanese fliers are also put through a course of training which for rigor, realism, and thoroughness is without parallel in any other air force in the world. It was these personal and spiritual factors which made the Japanese fliers superior to those of other countries who relied chiefly upon the purely mechanical factors. That much the world could not help but recognize.

Now appears the testimony to the effect that the Japanese are superior likewise with respect to the mechanical factor as well. Although our military authorities have always known that our planes were actually superior to the highly advertised American planes, the trial by combat has now proceeded to the point where our enemies themselves are being forced to admit this fact. With such superiority in both men and machines, it is no wonder that the results have been so uniformly brilliant as they have been.

The most significant connotation contained in the admissions of the British fliers lies in the bearing which the reported Japanese superiority in machines has on the final outcome of the war. President Roosevelt is making much of the fact that in a few years hence the United States will be able to produce tens of thousands of airplanes which will then become the decisive factor in bringing victory to the United States. Japan, with her lack of technological skill and with her paucity of materials, will not be able to match the air might of America, is his claim.

The unconscious testimony of the British fliers already furnishes the answer to President Roosevelt's boastful claims. Japan does not lack technological skill if she can produce machines which are superior to those made in the United States. The much vaunted engineering skill of the United States is apparently of the same cut as the much vaunted naval skill of this loud-talking nation. Although less talkative and less given to self-advertisement, Japanese aeronautical engineers can produce better machines than those produced in America.

As for the greater abundance of raw materials in America, what use is there in producing large quantities of inferior machines which would only fall victims to the fewer but superior Japanese machines? Furthermore, with the command of the Pacific lost by America, how are the American planes to come to attack Japan?

Finally, what is the United States going to do about the men to fly her machines? Certainly the hurriedly-produced American fliers with their year or two of training cannot compare with the Japanese fliers who are products of the most effective training system in all the world.

The admission of the British fliers is therefore a significant forecast of the continuing supremacy of Japan in the air.

The Dutch Are Confused

The Dutch are reported as being surprised at the difference between the explanations of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill concerning the recently organized Pacific War Council. The American President, in the grandiosely irresponsible manner which is his, sweepingly asserted that the Pacific War Council had been operating for months. This statement naturally played havoc with Churchill's careful nurturing of the Pacific War Council which actually met in its first session at London on February 10. It is no wonder that the Dutch are confused. And the Australians must be more than confused; they must be bitter.

It will be remembered that when Sir Archibald Wavell was appointed to the supreme command of the Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific, the Australians were bitterly disappointed over the fact that they were not consulted and that no Australian was given a high position on the staff. And this despite the fact that the Australians have been contributing most heavily in man power to the campaigns in this part of the world. To mollify the indignant Australians, Churchill then sponsored the creation of a Pacific War Council in which Australia was to be given full representation to compensate for the slight given it in the matter of the Supreme Command.

The Australians must have been skeptical, for they continued to express keen disappointment over the fact that the Council was to meet in the Europe-centered atmosphere of London rather than in some city where the Pacific area would receive more sympathetic attention. Now to have President Roosevelt think so little of this stage prop of Churchill as to confuse it completely with the committee of the combined chiefs of staff which had been meeting at Washington for months must have come as a blow to Australia. And one can imagine Churchill's chagrin to see his carefully laid stratagem overturned by his irrepressibly thoughtless partner. Although the Australian Government has issued a weak statement explaining that it is not altogether dissatisfied, this thinly-veiled expression of resentment does not fool anyone.

This is only one example of the confusion and lack of coordination which characterize our enemies. Efforts of the Allies to unify their war activities seem to result only in increased confusion. Such a situation is not surprising, for it cannot be denied that the actual interests of the Allies are divergent. The loud talk about Allied solidarity emanating from Washington and London is belied by the facts. It is obviously nothing but a smoke-screen to hide the dangerous cross-currents which actually exist. Wails of complaint from the Australians and cries of confusion from the bewildered Dutch tell us the real story of the relations within the ranks of the Allies.

ROOSEVELT INCREASES MENACE TO DEMOCRACY

Plunges U.S. Into World Conflict Heedless of Warnings

By M. E. GARDEN

Frankfurter Zeitung

Eighty years ago, the principles of the American constitution and of the American form of government were characterized by one of the greatest Presidents the United States ever had, Abraham Lincoln, as "a government of the people, for the people and by the people." Abraham Lincoln who saved the Union at the time of the Civil War, has often been referred to as the creator of American traditions whenever his present successor in the White House needed the splendor of that great name to enhance his own dignity.

For the same purpose Franklin D. Roosevelt did not hesitate to abuse the name of the first American President, George Washington, who exhorted the American people to keep out of all foreign, particularly European, entanglements. Roosevelt himself, of course, has done little else in the course of the last nine years.

One of Roosevelt's immediate predecessors, Woodrow Wilson, pushed the United States into war, pretending to make the world safe for democracy, and Roosevelt followed his example by advocating the destruction of dictatorships by the democracies. His own form of democracy is nothing but the most outspoken dictatorship, however.

Disastrous Policy

This truth has not only been recognized in the countries at present engaged in the war against the United States, but also by those Americans who bravely opposed Roosevelt's disastrous policy until the day when the mounting war psychosis in their country forced them to lay down arms. To become fully aware of the shamelessness of Roosevelt's artful distortions, it seems worth while to recall some of the warnings of Roosevelt's former opponents that went unheeded.

When the Lease-Lend bill was hurried through Congress, a representation of the people so much at President Roosevelt's beck and call that one of the Republican candidates for the Presidency, Senator Robert Taft, called it the "rubber stamp Congress," the famous authority on international law, John Bassett Moore, wrote: "This law will compel us to give up our present democratic way of life for fear of a future menace to our democracy. The oldest and last constitutional democracy will surrender its freedom under the pretext of keeping out of war. The result will presumably be that the newest dictatorship will soon go to war."

On February 15, 1941, the Saturday Evening Post, a weekly magazine, enumerated all the dictatorial powers Roosevelt had got hold of, and said: "These are the normal powers of a dictator." Furthermore the article recalled Roosevelt's promises of a peace policy given before his election and broken immediately afterward, and added: "We did not believe that this could be done to the American people. We have been mistaken for we did not believe that the American people could be induced by propaganda to give up their birthright. A dictator who does not have to bother about Congress, has both hands free to act as he pleases. This is what the President wants."

Roosevelt's War

Congressman Hamilton Fish wrote: "Once war is declared, it will be a total war, engulfing American liberties and civil rights."

Senator Bennet Champ Clark called the campaign of the isolationists to keep America out of war a last struggle for the preservation of democracy in the United States.

Senator Gerald T. Nye stated: "If ever we become involved in this war, it will be called by one name only by future historians: 'President Roosevelt's war,' because everyone of his steps since his Chicago address was directed toward war."

Senator Clark warned the followers of the President of the period after the war, when the democracy they were trying to save outside of their frontiers would have disappeared from their own country and their present freedoms would only be nebulous memories.

A few warning words of some leaders of the Catholic Church in America are as follows. The Archbishop of Cincinnati wrote exactly a year ago: "Ten per cent of our population are forcing the United States into the world conflict, while a majority of 90 per cent which is in favor of peace, can do nothing but stand helplessly aside."

Cardinal O'Connel, the Dean of the Catholic Church of America, said last April: "I have the definite impression that things are going on behind the scene, of which the people know nothing. I believe that the people want to stay out of war, but the Government seems to disregard these wishes, while they continue to talk about democracy. It is not fair of a Government which calls itself democratic, to act in this manner."

Synopsis of

CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE LITERATURE

SHISHA SEISHA
(The Dead and the Living)
1916

By HAKUCHO MASAMUNE

Part I

By dint of contrasting the "dead" and the "living," this short story attempts to depict the loneliness of the solitary life and probe into the sordidness of the human being. It first sums up in a brief introductory chapter the various transitional phases of one section of a certain street in Tokyo, and then proceeds with the main narrative, thus following a somewhat novelistic pattern.

Though still in the prime of life, Seikichi, the proprietor of a small vegetable shop in the street described in the introductory chapter, felt the strain of his long years of overwork. With the gradual debilitation of his physical resources his spirits also declined. Lately he had come to hate the strenuous life of Tokyo. He wanted to lead a quiet, secluded life in his native place in Kofu. His wife O-kiku, however, scornfully laughed at his weakness of spirit. Cheering him up, she worked as hard as a man. This utter lack of understanding and sympathy on the part of his healthy wife, for the suffering he was going through was disheartening to Seikichi.

With an extreme longing for people's company, he had arranged to have both his wife and maid-servant—these constituted the entire household—sleep near him at night. Soon afterward it occurred to him that, instead of himself returning to the province, he should send for his younger brother living there and have him help with the work in his shop.

Source of Happiness

Shinzo, his brother, had always wanted to go to Tokyo. In less than a month after his arrival he became an alert young man, thoroughly accustomed to city life. As it had been arranged that he should occupy the same room with O-tetsu, the maid-servant, he naturally became familiar with her. This was a source of some happiness to O-tetsu, who had been brought up under trying conditions. However, she was a very plain-looking girl, ill-suited to Shinzo. So that the barber-shop worker living next door often teased her, telling her jestingly to beware lest O-kiku, her mistress, might steal Shinzo from her. Somehow this reached O-kiku's ears.

Realizing that the maid-servant had begun to pay a little more attention to her personal appearance, she now felt the weariness of working so diligently beside her weakened, sickly husband. Thus, she also began to improve her looks, as well as to exchange gay and playful remarks with the barber-shop worker. Seikichi grew weaker and weaker, at last becoming bedridden, but his wife could no longer reply to his spiteful pleas and grumbling in any but a cold, indifferent manner.

One night the barber's assistant, returning very late, found the door of his quarters bolted from the inside. Sympathizing with him in his predicament, O-kiku sought to help him get into his house. In order to wake the barber's apprentice, she went into the room where Shinzo was sleeping—the one nearest the barber's house next door. Suddenly her husband followed her into the room, there was a terrible look on his face, which gave her a shock. Staggering, he seized her violently. Presently, however, Shinzo awoke. Soothing the enraged Seikichi, he took him back to his bed.

Until then Shinzo had been an innocent, guileless young man. After this night he was unable to maintain his usual equanimity. The gossips of the neighborhood began to pain him, and he kept insisting upon his desire to return to Koshu. But O-kiku stopped him from going. While this served rather to incite his curiosity about her looks and manner of speech, the fact that the days passed uneventfully began to irritate him.

Feels Unpleasantness

Seikichi, who had become an utter invalid, had his head shaved, and felt as though even spiritually he had become a Buddhist priest. Desiring as much as possible to achieve that peace of mind which is entirely dissociated from worldly ties, he began to chant the Buddhist prayer. Shinzo, on seeing O-kiku nurse this husband of hers, felt some sort of unpleasantness and discomfort. No longer did he show any familiarity toward O-tetsu, assuming as he had come to do the attitude of a master toward his maid-servant.

After the midnight incident his bed had been brought beside those of Seikichi and his wife, and though Seikichi himself, claiming that Shinzo was an offense to the eye, demanded that his bed be placed elsewhere, O-kiku would not listen. She no longer had any attachment to her husband, who was now hovering at death's door. She nursed him in the usual way out of a mere sense of duty. Even this, however, was displeasing to Shinzo. At times he would feel that O-kiku might have been making sport of him.

(To Be Concluded)

Reminiscences of Marquis Komura

By VISCOUNT KIKUJIRO ISHII

(Prefatory Note: The following reminiscences of the late Marquis Jutaro Komura, one of Japan's outstanding statesmen and diplomats, are taken from a speech broadcast by Viscount Kikujiro Ishii on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Marquis Komura's death.)

ALL things considered, Marquis Komura was a born-diplomat. For seven or eight years after his entry into the service of the Foreign Office, he worked in obscurity in the Bureau of Translation; then, at one bound, he was promoted First Secretary of Legation, and charge d'affaires of the Japanese Legation of Peking. In this capacity he was sent to China where to deal with Li Hung-chang, the veteran statesman and master of the Tsungliyamen, which was by no means an easy task. The relations between Japan and China were in extreme tension at that time, an armed clash between the two countries already hovering in sight.

Therefore, it may be said that Marquis Komura threw himself into the mire with a strong resolution to take the bull by the horns. Li Hung-chang, the party he was to deal with, was well known throughout the world as one of the greatest statesmen ever to be produced by China. At that time, the late Marquis was only a charge d'affaires of a legation, with no experience in the diplomatic service, nor had he any special influence to back him. He was, in the eyes of everybody, no match for Li Hung-chang.

Li Acts Obtrusively

In the first interview between the two, Li Hung-chang talked and behaved very obtrusively, looking down upon the late Marquis as a novice in diplomacy, slim and spare-built like the country he had come from. The young and clear-sighted Japanese diplomat saw at once the reason why Li Hung-chang was making light of him, and immediately retorted to the Chinese statesman, "There are in my country many giants. These huge men are professional wrestlers. I believe it will be worth your while to visit Japan with a view to making their acquaintance." Caught in a vital point, Li Hung-chang, veteran as he was, could say nothing further.

I heard this story directly from Mr. Cheng, who, as interpreter, was present at the first interview between the two diplomats of international caliber. Li Hung-chang was a mere bluffer and boaster knowing nothing of diplomacy but the childish trickery of old China. At the time in question, however, the international situation was entirely different, and Li Hung-chang was regarded as the lion of his day, while Marquis Komura was almost entirely disregarded, as if he had been a small mouse which could be no match for such a veteran statesman.

The foregoing tells how Marquis Komura made his first appearance in the arena of the diplomatic service. I admire Count Munemitsu Mutsu, the then Foreign Minister, for the keen-sightedness, with which he detected in Marquis Komura, then a mere secretary, the right man to fill the important post at Peking.

Possessed Cool Courage

As for the talents and ability of the Marquis in filling the important post to the complete satisfaction of Count Mutsu on the one hand, and to the alarm and consternation of the aged Chinese diplomat Li Hung-chang, I am at a loss how to express my admiration. The story stated above always reminds me of the saying "Genius always shows itself early in life." I can never recollect this anecdote without recalling to memory the cool courage which was inherent in the Marquis. It was hardly short of a miracle that a man so infirm and slightly-built could have been the abode of so daring a spirit and great courage. As the Japanese quotation has it, Marquis Komura was an incarnation of cool courage.

SETTING aside all affairs Japan had been required to dispose of prior to the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-5, it was no easy task for the Japanese Government to decide on an armed clash with Russia at the beginning of the present century, as Japan was then no match for Russia regarding territorial area, population; and, especially, fighting preparations. Statistics were undeniably in favor of Russia. Marquis Komura, however, had foreseen the inevitability of an armed clash between the two countries, and always urged the necessity to forestall Russia irrespective of Japan's inferiority in material strength. This alone, proves that he had the greatest confidence in the patriotic spirit of the Japanese nation.

Recalls Hojo Tokimune

Whenever I read the history of our country, I am deeply moved by the great courage by which Hojo Tokimune, Regent of the Kamakura Government, decided on a strong policy against the Mongolian Invasion 600 years ago. I have no doubt that in deciding on a strong policy against Russia about 40 years ago, Marquis Komura required the same courage that Hojo Tokimune had within him at the time of the national emergency stated. Therefore, I cannot think of the name of the Marquis without recalling to mind the name of Hojo Tokimune.

It goes without saying that a good memory is a valuable asset to anybody, to say nothing of a diplomat, and in respect of memorizing power, Marquis Komura outrivalled all in every degree. The following is one of the many stories told of the excellent memory of the Marquis. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance was concluded at the beginning of 1902, and it was agreed between the London and Tokyo Governments that the fact should be announced by both parties at the same time.

The dean of Japanese diplomats, in this engaging article, recalls the qualities which made the late Marquis Komura a statesman and diplomat who ranks with Bismarck.

In accordance with the agreement, the matter was announced here in the Imperial Diet on February 12 of that year, the day following Kigensetsu or the Anniversary of the Accession of the Emperor Jimmu. On the morning of February 12, all facts concerning the conclusion of an Alliance with Britain were announced by Marquis Komura, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the House of Peers. The same afternoon, the Marquis made the same announcement in the House of Representatives. Now, the manuscript for the address of the Foreign Minister on that occasion had been prepared by Mr. Yamaza, then Chief of the Political Affairs Bureau, who was well known as a writer.

Recites Entire Text

THE Foreign Minister, however, gave his address in both Houses without referring to the elaborate manuscript prepared by Mr. Yamaza, exactly as laid down therein, with no word added and no word omitted. I was surprised at this wonderful example of the memory of the Marquis. Finally, in the course of his address, he recited the entire text of the Agreement reached between the two countries. Can anybody recite the whole text of a lengthy international treaty from the preamble to the epilogue? Marquis Komura in this respect was surely an exceptional man. Moreover, the Agreement reached between our country and Britain at that time was not only very long but also highly complicated in wording. Indeed, it belongs to a different category than many popular agreements such as the pacts to outlaw aggressive war, frequently concluded between various countries in recent years, for such pacts or agreements consist of only a few short articles.

Especially, the 1st Article of the Anglo-Japanese Agreement was extremely complicated in wording and contents, all matters concerning Japan's predominant position in Korea, the special interests Japan and Britain had vested in China, etc., being laid down therein. Indeed, it had entirely occupied Mr. Yamaza and myself for several preceding days to have that article translated into Japanese. Nevertheless, it was absolutely impossible for us to learn it by heart, so we were dumbfounded at hearing the Marquis easily recite the entire contents of the Agreement by heart. The members of the two Houses, however, were occupied by the great event itself and overlooked the remarkable fact that the Foreign Minister was reciting the lengthy Agreement from memory.

Kept No Records

In short, the memory of Marquis Komura was sometimes too great to be convenient. It is usual for a Foreign Minister to have a record made of all affairs of importance, so that he may not forget them. For instance, whenever he sees the Ambassador or a Minister of a foreign country on an important business, he will summon his secretary at once and have him record the interview. Foreign Minister Marquis Komura, however, was confident of his memory to have any such record prepared with the inevitable result that some events of importance sank into obscurity with his death.

Another merit of Marquis Komura was his ability to quickly discriminate between reason and unreason, or to discern white from black. The Marquis, therefore, was always in a position to adequately meet a difficult situation suddenly confronting him. These are only a few out of the numerous merits the Marquis had inherited, and any attempts on the part of others to imitate those merits always resulted in mere waste of time.

Was Man of Foresight

IN addition to these strong points, which always enabled Marquis Komura to adequately deal with any unexpected change in circumstances, he possessed a special ability to forestall his opponents. "The secret of diplomacy is to forestall the other part" was one of the rules the Marquis strictly observed.

Marquis Komura was a man of foresight and found his stages of activity in fields lying beyond the sight of other statesmen or diplomats. The tactics of the Marquis to forestall his opponents, after all, originated in his foresight.

In search of a diplomat of a similar type as the Marquis, the first foreign diplomat I came upon was Bismarck of Prussia. Bismarck once remarked that "to see what is right and not to do it shows want of courage." There is no doubt that he wanted to enhance, in his words, the necessity of forestalling his opponents—the rule which had always guided Marquis Komura throughout his life as a diplomat. There was, however, a remarkable difference between Bismarck and Marquis Komura. The Marquis always succeeded in bringing his opponents under his control by means of a gentle hand, but never attempted to carry it through a misdeed, whereas Bismarck, being wilful and stiff-necked, always tried to talk black into white.

Bismarck and Komura

Throughout the long period of time I was under the Marquis, I was so busy that I could scarcely find any time for reading. Upon assumption of the post of Japanese Ambassador to France I had leisure, for the first time since my entry into the diplomatic service, for reading. Among the books I read whilst in Paris was the biography of Bismarck. I was deeply interested in that book, because I discovered therein, that this great diplomat had followed almost the same policy and official methods as had Marquis Komura. And I thought that the Marquis, having read the biography of Bismarck, had been following in the wake of the German diplomat. Therefore, upon my return from France, I asked the late Marquis Kinichi Komura, what books his father, had been reading. The late Marquis presented to me a few days later a list of books left by his father. I examined the list, but failed to find therein the Biography of Bismarck. This fact shows that in many respects the two great diplomats were men naturally of the same type.

Possessed Wide Knowledge

THERE are many admirers of Marquis Komura, but even among them, there are very few who are aware of the merits of the Marquis in affairs outside the diplomatic world. The Marquis had a special interest in, and a profound knowledge of, all affairs coming under internal politics, including all questions concerning the maintenance of peace and order at home as well as all questions of national economy. The only matter of which he knew rather little at first, was the question of state finance. Soon after the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War, the Government decided upon the flotation of some internal loans, but the authorities could not agree with one another as to the amount of the loans to be floated at once. Those who were pessimistic of the financial strength of the country said that the amount of the loans in question must be restricted to ¥50,000,000, for should it be short-subscribed, the morale of our men at the front would be considerably affected. Meantime, those who were optimistic insisted upon the flotation of ¥100,000,000.

Marquis Komura could not decide on the question, for he knew rather little about the economic strength of his country. The Government, therefore, summoned a number of prominent financiers from Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, etc. for their opinions. Like the Government authorities, however, those financiers could not agree with one another as to the amount of the loans to be floated, some supporting the pessimists, while others stood on the side of the optimists. The authorities were at a loss to know what to do, when Yunosuke Sasaki rose in his seat and said that the economic strength of Japan was good enough for the flotation of ¥150,000,000 of national loans. Those present at the meeting were surprised at the opinion of Mr. Sasaki, who, however, said many things in support of his optimistic opinion until it was finally decided that ¥100,000,000 of loans should be floated at once.

Was Foe of Socialism

Marquis Komura was greatly pleased with Mr. Sasaki, and after that consulted him from time to time concerning various economic and financial questions of importance.

As stated, the Marquis had a profound knowledge of, and a deep interest in, various questions of internal politics, except the complicated problems of state finance. The Marquis hated like anything socialism of those days, which had many things in common with communism of today, and always exercised strenuous efforts for extirpation thereof, in cooperation with the Home Minister. I recall that the Marquis often called to his official residence the Vice-Minister of Home Affairs and gave him his opinions and advice. He also had a special interest in the development of industries. The construction of the Iron Foundry of Yawata, the expansion of the Harbor Works of Hakata, etc. were all started in accordance with the earnest opinion of the Marquis. It is worthwhile mentioning that the Hang Yang Steel Works on the bank of the Yangtze Rusei, the Coal Mine of Fushun, the Gold Mine of Honkeiko (Pensihu), the Iron Mine of Anshan are all founded on the elaborate investigations and plans made by

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